

So the jury acquits O'Keefe of FIRST DEGREE INTENTIONAL MURDER

Then, the appellate court acquits O'Keefe of the UNLAWFUL ACT.

Here is what we have.

The jury returns a UNINTENTIONAL, UNPREMEDITATED, UNDELIBERATED guilty verdict of Second Degree malice murder IMPLIED by the SAME alleged single act they acquitted me of in First degree murder. However, the appellate court acquits me of the UNLAWFUL ACT. So, conclusively the battery argued as the underlying act is completely lacking.

Collateral Estoppel clearly applies. This issue of any battery has been decided and is no longer OPEN to consideration. Remembering the issue was in Favor for the defendant. ONLY the Nevada Supreme Court can change the LAW of the CASE.

### : JUDICIAL ADMISSION MADE BY STATE

At the end of the second trial the state makes judicial admission and makes it a matter of the record. (EXHIBIT 8, id at Page 57, lines 7-23)

Clearly the State admits the N.S.C. decided issue #2 on direct appeal. He also repeatedly admits the N.S.C. was aware of what was "second degree murder" and not only was the instruction wrong, but it was precisely why it got REVERSED.

The evidence didn't "SUPPORT IT." Mr. LALLI truly is WISE at times. The second jury hung, not being able to convict beyond a reasonable doubt based on INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE again. However, that is what the N.S.C. already said on DIRECT APPEAL.

??

### III.

C.

TWO UNTRUTHS - STATES WITNESSES, CHERYL MORRIS and DETECTIVE WIDEMANN

UNTRUTH #1: IN the petrocelli hearing conducted on MARCH 16, 2009, the birth of this lie occurred. Mr. Smith, for the State, used his star witnesses for this testimony. This claim has been made to this day which must end. The claim is that Mrs Whitmarsh testified against O'Keefe resulting in O'Keefe getting convicted and going to prison for a three year prison term. The case was the FELONY battery domestic violence case, C207835. How ironic, this was another reason stated in the State's plea to bring in the FELONY battery domestic violence case in their case in chief to help bolster their INTENT and MOTIVE in hopes for a first degree murder verdict. This testimony was given in the State's opening statement, during their C.I.C., and in closing argument for BOTH TRIALS. Here now is the TRUTH.

• (see CASE NO. C207835 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2005 RECORDER'S TRANSCRIPT)

(JURY TALK DAY TWO - VOLUME TWO EXHIBIT 12)

Mrs Whitmarsh's testimony is COMPLETELY for O'Keefe. Stop the perjury.

(id at Pages 18-34) The State is knowingly allowing this.

Also, O'Keefe was acquitted which makes it no longer relevant.

ALSO LAW of the Case APPLIES.

UNTRUTH #2: Also, throughout the petrocelli and both trials it repeatedly is misstated that O'Keefe did three years in prison. Another lie. O'Keefe did (13) months at TONOPAH FIRE CAMP. Minimum security, no doors, no locks, worked all over county, outside.

Testimony to this is by O'Keefe's current P.S.I., page 6, I received in fact on this instant case. Stop the UNTRUTHS.

(see P.S.I. CASE C250630 PAGE 6 APRIL 2009 EXHIBIT 13)

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III.

d.

REHEARING EVIDENCE - STATE HELD TWO PETROCELLI HEARINGS ON MISDEMEANORS

FIRST TRIAL

On February 10, 2009 States Motion to Admit Other Crimes is heard.

(see Tuesday, February 10, 2009 POUND DRAFT TRANSCRIPT EXHIBIT 14)

The Court inquires about the bad acts. The state submits he is only trying to get the ONE FELONY for his case. (id at Page 8, lines 18-25)

Of course this being the felony battery constituting domestic violence.

CASE C207835. The Court states he wants to hear more on the matter of the crimes and schedules a Petrocelli hearing. (id at Page 9, lines 17-22)

Petrocelli hearing is now completed on March 16, 2009.

(see MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009 JURY TRIAL DAY 2 TRANSCRIPT EXHIBIT 15)

State starts off with the TWO UNTRUTHS previously brought up in C.

The lies that Whitmarsh testified against O'Keefe in felony case C207835 and that O'Keefe did three years as a result. (id at Pages 2-3)

Mr. Smith declares he only is going to use the felony unless O'Keefe opens the door to the misdemeanors. (id at Page 12, lines 1-7)

The Court explains to O'Keefe that if he takes the stand he should be careful not to blurt anything out and open the door. EMPHASIS on the other misdemeanor domestic violence issues could adversely impact my case. (id at Page 13, lines 1-10)

Now for the record, O'Keefe wishes to manifest the States Motion reflecting knowledge of every act before trial.

(see Notice of Motion and Motion to admit Evidence of other crimes EXHIBIT 16)

(ELECTRONICALLY FILED FEBRUARY 2, 2009 CASE C250630)

The State list every misdemeanor act by their Justice Court numbers. (id at Pages 6-8) Special Note again on PAGE 8, the State specifically requests C207835, only in it's case-in-chief. (LINES 6-8.)

Again also noting the State alleges O'Keefe did (3) years in prison because  
"SPECIFICALLY" due to Mrs. Whitmarsh's testimony. Also, he requested the  
Felony d.v., C207835, for Motive and INTENT. (id at Page 8, lines 14-20)

### SECOND TRIAL

(No BAD ACTS  
MISDEMEANORS)

### THIRD TRIAL

After second trial hung, based on insufficient evidence to convict, the  
State has Second Chair File a Motion in Limine to Admit, MISDEMEANORS.  
(Motion in Limine to Admit Evidence of other BAD ACTS. EXHIBIT 17)

(ELECTRONICALLY FILED JANUARY 6, 2011 CASE C250430 HEARING 1/20/2011)

With "DUPLICITY" the State list exactly, every single misdemeanor case  
from the hearing prior to trial #1, almost two years prior.

Also noting, the State now list every misdemeanor case  
by the EVENT NUMBER versus the JUSTICE COURT CASE No.  
(id at Pages 3-6) How about N.A.S. 50.095.?

★ Double Jeopardy: The Double Jeopardy Clause requires the  
government to put on its strongest case the FIRST TIME. Also,  
the State cannot REHASH SAME EVIDENCE FROM FIRST TRIAL. On 3/13/12,  
the Judge just gave his ruling that only the misdemeanor event  
# 040602-3158, which was enhanced to the Felony BATTERY d.v. case  
C207835 "can again" be used. (ORDER FILED MARCH 13, 2012 EXHIBIT 18)


### IV. AUTHORITIES - ARGUMENT

IN Closing Argument, of the first trial, PROSECUTOR SMITH ARGUES  
in fact that a "battery domestic violence precipitated the stabbing".  
(id at Page 179, lines 1-2, EXHIBIT 5) - "BATTERY OR SOMETHING"



Most important is at the very end of his closing argument, the State again suggest and plants the "seed" again, in the jury's mind, that the BATTERY ACT sustains the INTENT required. (id at Page 178, lines 13-16 EXHIBIT 5)

Specifically, he states, "it doesn't make the UNDERLYING ACT any less criminal." WHAT ACT? THE SAME SINGLE ALLEGED BATTERY D.V. ACT!

• IN (STATE v. MANGANA) 33 Nev. 341, 112 P. 693 (Nev. 1910) - 

• Allows the State to pursue a First degree murder without charging the other crime. A charging document alleging murder in the ordinary form and proof that it was committed in the perpetration of the underlying act, then MALICE is IMPLIED. Of course, this works for Second Degree, also.

In the INSTANT CASE, without a doubt, the State was prosecuting upon the theory that the HOMICIDE was committed in carrying out the UNDERLYING ACT, (crime) of Battery Constituting Domestic Violence as charged initially when ARRESTED. (11-5-2008) (see EXHIBIT 1 - Charge Battery D.V. COMPLAINT 11/7/2008)

Malice to sustain the general intent required would then be IMPLIED.

• IN (LABASTIDA v. STATE) 112 Nev. 1502, 931 P.2d 1334 (Nev. 1996)

• Implied malice may be found when : 1) The killing resulted from an INTENTIONAL ACT.  
2) The natural consequences of the act are dangerous to human life, AND  
3) [T]he act was deliberately performed with knowledge of the danger to, and with conscious disregard for, HUMAN LIFE. (\* 1347)

This is EXACTLY THEORY #2 of JURY INSTRUCTION #18 in the INSTANT CASE, C230630. (see JURY INSTRUCTIONS EXHIBIT 10)

1 • IN (LABASTIDA v. NEVADA) 115 Nev. 298, 986 P.2d 443 (Nov. 1999)

2 • INSTRUCTION No. 27 in  
3 Labastida on Second Degree MURDER was IDENTICAL to O'KEEFE'S  
4 INSTRUCTION No. 18. (\* 44B) They define what is NOT  
5 involuntary manslaughter BUT BECOMES SECOND DEGREE MURDER  
6 WHEN,

7 "the involuntary killing occurs in the commission of an  
8 UNLAWFUL ACT, which in its consequences, naturally  
9 tend to destroy the life of a HUMAN BEING"...

10 This is ABSOLUTELY the SECOND THEORY on my INSTRUCTION # 18.  
11 We must remember that defining and proving malice is established.

12 • IN (KEYS v. NEVADA) 104 Nev. 736, 766 P.2d 270, (Nov. 1988)

13 • HN[6] Proving express  
14 malice means proving a deliberate intention to kill; ~~AND~~ WHILE  
15 PROVING IMPLIED MALICE MEANS PROVING ONLY THE COMMISSION  
16 OF THE UNLAWFUL ACT.

17 ★ Now the problem O'Keefe has is on my direct appeal, the  
18 LAW of the Case has been PRONOUNCED. ADJUDICATED, ALREADY!

19 The Law of the Case on the First appeal is the LAW of the  
20 Case on all subsequent appeals where the Facts remain the same.

21 ~~29~~ HABERSTACH v. NEVADA, 119 Nev. 173, 69 P.3d 676 (Nov. 2002) HN[25]

22 The DOCTRINE OF THE LAW OF THE CASE specifically states,

23 (1) the judgment of that court is final upon all questions decided  
24 and those questions are, ARE NO LONGER OPEN TO CONSIDERATION.

25 Issue #2 was decided in Favor of the defendant on direct appeal.

The evidence at trial did not prove O'Keefe committed an unlawful act.  
So CONVERSELY, if the State's charging document would have alleged a

battery, it would not have mattered. Remembering State ARGUED the ACT.  
For Collateral Estoppel purposes the following would then apply.

- IN (U.S. COURT OF APPEALS 9<sup>th</sup> v. Castillo-BARR) 483 F.3d 890 (9<sup>th</sup> 2007)

• HN [1]

The Double Jeopardy Clause forbids the government from conducting a series of prosecutions, involving the SAME FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE in which it presents additional arguments and evidence at each iteration.

• HN [12]

An issue that is an element of the offense is always material to a subsequent claim of Collateral Estoppel.

HN [5][6][7][8]

The Double Jeopardy Clause does not only bar a second prosecution on the same charge of which a defendant has been previously acquitted (or convicted). It also prevents the government from seeking to prosecute a defendant on an ISSUE that has been determined in the defendant's favor in a prior prosecution, regardless of the particular offense involved in the earlier trial

(Ashe v. Swenson, 397 U.S. 443)

Put another way, "When an issue of fact or law is actually litigated and determined by a final and valid judgment, and the determination is ESSENTIAL to the judgment, the determination is CONCLUSIVE in a subsequent action between the parties, whether on the same or a different claim."

• AS the SUPREME COURT has explained, Collateral Estoppel in the criminal context - the protection against the re-litigation of issues previously determined - is "an integral part of the protection against double jeopardy guaranteed by the Fifth and enforceable by the Fourteenth."

Also, the FIFTH AMENDMENT, as interpreted in (Ashe v. Swenson) BARS  
re-litigation of an issue already decided, NO MATTER HOW MUCH  
ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE the government may wish to introduce at a  
THIRD TRIAL, like the instant case.

### NEW EVIDENTIARY

FACTS may not be brought forward to obtain a different determination  
of the ULTIMATE FACT. see • HERNANDEZ, (572 F.2d at 221 n. 3)

Also, rehashing of old evidence previously presented would  
clearly be PROHIBITED by the Collateral Estoppel Doctrine.  
• Garrow, (596 F.2d at 407)

The State, in the INSTANT CASE,  
has now violated Double Jeopardy's offspring, collateral  
estoppel under the 5<sup>th</sup> AMENDMENT of the Laws and treaties  
of the U.S. Constitution, also my due process rights  
enforceable by the 14<sup>th</sup> AMENDMENT that is guaranteed  
and applied to the State's. [Under (Benton v. Maryland) one:  
395 U.S. 784, 89 S.Ct. 2056, 23 L.Ed. 2d 707 (1969)] The mention of any Battery  
is barred, in any fashion what-so-ever. The INTENT was  
ABANDONED as lacking, not proven. The act  
has been declared not PROVEN beyond a reasonable doubt.

Also, now "barred", which also was violated,  
was/is the prosecuting theory of the unlawful, intentional  
stabbing with a knife.

• IN (SANTAMARIA v. HORSLEY) 133 F.3d 1242 (9<sup>th</sup> 1998)

The petitioner moved to prevent the State from proceeding on the  
theory that he personally used a knife and stabbed victim.

The trial court granted the Motion based on Collateral Estoppel.

1 • IN (Pettaway v. Plummer) 943 F.2d 1041 (9th Cir 1991)

2 • The prosecution concedes  
3 that at all times [its] theory of prosecution at the first trial and even  
4 now at retrial would be Pettaway shot and killed the victim.

5 Without it, there is no other theory of prosecution to  
6 succeed in any conviction.

7 Point being that in Santanaria's  
8 case, the prosecution also admitted that they had no other  
9 evidence that the defendant was anything but the stabber...

10 • Santanaria, 8 Cal.4th at 929, 35 Cal. Rpt.2d 624, 884 P.2d 81.

11 The fact remains the same here for  
12 O'Keefe in the INSTANT CASE. When the act was not  
13 proven the State lost intent. (PERIOD) FOR SECOND DEGREE  
14 MALICE MURDER, the state has no other theory available  
15 to SUSTAIN the general intent required.

16 Moreover, in  
17 the instant case, O'Keefe has already been acquitted of  
18 the INTENT, by the jury, and the underlying  
19 act also by the Nevada Supreme Court.

20 • IN (SCHIRO v. FARLEY) 510 U.S. 222, 114 S.Ct. 703 (1994)

21 • HN [10][11]

22 Issue preclusion attaches only to determinations that were necessary  
23 to support the judgment entered in the first action.

24 Schiro didn't  
25 convince the Court on the intentional murder argument. In the instant  
case however, O'Keefe has been acquitted of INTENTIONAL  
murder, by the JURY, and any underlying act by the N.S.C.  
(The alleged intentional battery)



## V. CONCLUSION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE GLORIA NAVARRO already has made a predetermination that as, N.A.S.A. would say, "Houston, we have a PROBLEM!" (Judge Navarro only wants the issue exhausted.)

I read in SANTANARIA, \*1250, it made no difference that Santanaria's claim of exclusion is based on collateral estoppel rather than the more familiar constitutional grounds. IN Fact, they said Pettaway erred in asserting Federal jurisdiction BEFORE retrial. My second trial ended.

☹️: My point is, with both trials now completed, it makes it much easier to make MANIFEST my claims on the repeated usage of the evidence, theory of criminal culpability and the adjudicated issue on INTENT. Also the same sovereign, and same statutory charge.

• [ONLY until trial, could we see STATE'S evidence used.] I'm officially declaring that CONSTITUTIONAL COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL applies on several operatives. My 5<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> AMENDMENT RIGHTS have been violated and will so further, if the third trial would somehow proceed. Any future theory of intentional stabbing must be barred. Based on no theory of prosecution and violations, I request dismissed with prejudice, of the Second Amended INFORMATION charging Second-degree murder w.d.w. (Also based on insufficient evidence)

• CONSIDER THIS! - With all the evidence wrongfully used, the State could not prove the charge. Without that evidence, how will State prove something that defendant already, anyway, has been acquitted of? The judgment of acquittal simply was never entered on second degree. (FORMER JEOPARDY ISSUE PENDING IN 9<sup>th</sup> - WILL COA BE ISSUED)

• CASE NO. C256630

DECLARATION

Defendant has constructed and verified contents  
of his MOTION to Dismiss. A copy of said motion  
was hand delivered and signed for by the parties  
listed below.

Dated: March 14, 2012

Brian O'Keefe  
BRIAN O'KEEFE - #1447732

Copies ; 1) Clerk of the Court  
2) District Attorney  
3) Judge M. Villani

( • MOTION TOTAL 24 pgs.  
• APPENDIX-EXHIBITS 178 pgs.  
EXHIBITS #'s 1-18  
18 TOTAL EXHIBITS )

DATED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2012.

I, BRIAN O'KEEFE C#1447732, do

solemnly swear, under the penalty of perjury, that

the above MOTION to Dismiss presented on 5<sup>th</sup> of March is accurate,

correct, and true to the best of my knowledge.

NRS 171.102 and NRS 208.165.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian O'Keefe  
BRIAN O'KEEFE

Defendant - PRO SE  
#1447732

R.O.C.

BRIAN O'KEEFE

C.C.D.C.

330 S. Casino Ctr. Blvd.

LAS VEGAS NV 89101

IN THE  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

STATE OF NEVADA,  
Plaintiff,

VS.

BRIAN KELLY O'KEEFE,  
Defendant.

CASE NO: C250630

DEPT NO: XVII

- MOTION TO DISMISS - 24 Pages
- APPENDIX OF EXHIBITS - 178 Pages

RECEIPT OF COPY

Receipt of copy of Defendant's MOTION TO DISMISS BASED  
UPON VIOLATION(S) OF THE FIFTH AMENDMENT COMPONENT OF DOUBLE  
JEOPARDY CLAUSE, CONSTITUTIONAL COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL AND, ALTERNATIVELY,  
... THE ALLEGED BATTERY ACT DESCRIBED IN THE ATTENDED INFORMATION,  
is hereby acknowledged. (APPENDIX OF EXHIBITS ALSO)  
TOTAL 178 PAGES EXHIBITS (1-18)

HONORABLE M. Villan

CLERK OF THE COURT

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

X P.Z. CAMPBELL PUT IN BOX X

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Eileen Monville

Regional Justice Center  
200 LEWIS AVE.

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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155

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MARCH 16, 2012

MARCH 16, 2012

MARCH 16, 2012

- A.O.C. -

HAND DELIVERED  
[SECOND COPY 3-22-12]  
P.I. SWEET CAMPBELL

005361

Page 1

BRIAN KEVIN C'WIFE  
#145752

CLARK COUNTY DETENTION CENTER  
200 S. RAMPART CENTER BOULEVARD  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101

FILED

MAR 16 12 06 PM '12

*Ann L. Johnson*  
CLERK OF THE COURT

IN THE  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

STATE OF NEVADA,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

BRIAN KEVIN C'WIFE,  
Defendant.

CASE NO: C250630

DEPT. NO: XVII

EXHIBITS: 1-18  
(16)

APPENDIX OF  
EXHIBITS  
For;

MOTION TO DISMISS BASED UPON VIOLATIONS OF THE  
FIFTH AMENDMENT COMPONENT OF THE DOUBLE JEOPARDY  
CLAUSE, CONSTITUTIONAL COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL AND, ALTERNATIVELY,  
CLAIMING ITS JUDICIAL INTERFERENCE BY THE FOURTEENTH  
AMENDMENT UPON THE STATES PRECLUDING FURTHER THEORY OF  
PROSECUTION BY UNLAWFUL INTENTIONAL STRIKING WITH KNIFE,  
THE ALLEGED BATTERY NOT DESCRIBED IN THE PROVIDED INFORMATION.

DATED: MAR 14, 2012

BRIAN K. C'WIFE  
#145752  
DEFENDANT IN CASE NO.

005362

FILE # 1447732  
DAVID BERRY CHERIE  
C.C.D.C.  
3300 W. LAS VEGAS BLVD.  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89101

CASE NO. 0250630

## APPENDIX OF EXHIBITS

STATE OF NEVADA,  
Plaintiff,

vs.

BRIAN DENNY L. BULL,  
Defendant.

IN THE  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA Honorable Villeri  
DEPT. NO. XVII

(5th AMENDMENT VIOLATIONS COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL) CASE NO. 0250630  
PRO SE, MOTION TO DISMISS APPENDIX OF EXHIBITS

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161 TOTAL PAGES

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FILED MARCH 13, 2012  
ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO DISMISS THE STATE'S MOTION TO ADMIT EVIDENCE  
OF OTHER BAD ACTS

05363



*Alan L. Shuman*  
CLERK OF THE COURT

• SUPP

SUPPLEMENT TO PCR

(SUPP)

*Brian Kerry O'Keefe*

Lovelock Correctional Center  
1200 Prison Road  
Lovelock, Nevada 89419

# 90244

Petitioner In Pro Se

DA  
PP

IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

*BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE*

Petitioner,

-vs-

*STATE OF NEVADA, et al.*

Respondent.

• • • • •  
SUA SPONTE DETERMINE,  
IF NEEDED,  
EVIDENTIARY HEARING, REQUESTED

Case No. DBCE50620

Dept. No. XVII

SEE TABLE OF AUTHORITIES ATTACHED.  
Date of Hearing: 07/10/15  
Time of Hearing: 09:15 AM

**SUPPLEMENTAL PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS**  
(Post-Conviction Relief - NRS 34.735 Petition; Form)

*NOTE: This supplement only adds to the original petition filed. This does not waive the jurisdictional claim already existing, but adds grounds 1-12 with appendix of exhibits attached.*

**INSTRUCTIONS:**  
(1) This petition must be legibly handwritten or typewritten, signed by the petitioner and verified.  
(2) Additional pages are not permitted except where noted or with respect to the facts which you rely upon to support your grounds for relief. No citation of authorities need be furnished. If briefs or arguments are submitted, they should be submitted in the form of a separate memorandum.

(3) If you want an attorney appointed, you must complete the Affidavit in Support of Request to Proceed in Forma Pauperis. You must have an authorized officer at the prison complete the certificate as to the amount of money and securities on deposit to your credit in any account in the institution.

(4) You must name as respondent the person by whom you are confined or restrained. If you are in a specific institution of the Department of Corrections, name the warden or head of the institution. If you are not in a specific institution of the Department but within its custody, name the Director of the Department of Corrections.

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U.S. AMENDMENTS 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> . . . . . Prison

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1 (5) You must include all grounds or claims for relief which  
2 you may have regarding your conviction or sentence. Failure to  
3 raise all grounds in this petition may preclude you from filing  
future petitions challenging your conviction and sentence.

4 (6) You must allege specific facts supporting the claims in  
5 the petition you file seeking relief from any conviction or  
6 sentence. Failure to allege specific facts rather than just  
7 conclusions may cause your petition to be dismissed. If your  
petition contains a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel,  
that claim will operate to waive the attorney-client privilege  
for the proceeding in which you claim your counsel was  
ineffective.

8 (7) When the petition is fully completed, the original and  
9 one copy must be filed with the clerk of the state district  
10 court for the county in which you were convicted. One copy must  
11 be mailed to the respondent, one copy to the Attorney General's  
12 Office, and one copy to the district attorney of the county in  
13 which you were convicted or to the original prosecutor if you  
14 are challenging your original conviction or sentence. Copies  
must conform in all particulars to the original submitted for  
filing.

#### PETITION

14 1. Name of institution and county in which you are presently  
15 imprisoned or where and how you are presently restrained of your  
liberty: Lovelock Correctional Center, Pershing County, Nevada.

16 2. Name and location of court which entered the judgment of  
17 conviction under attack: Eighth Judicial District Court In and  
for the County of Clark

18 3. Date of judgment of conviction: August 26, 2002

19 4. Case number: 02-250620

20 5. (a) Length of sentence: ten (10) to twenty-five (25) years  
21 consecutive eight (8) to twenty (20) years

22 (b) If sentence is death, state any date upon which  
execution is scheduled: N/A

23 6. Are you presently serving a sentence for a conviction  
24 other than the conviction under attack in this motion?

25 Yes ☐ No ☒

26 If "yes," list crime, case number and sentence being  
27 served at this time:

28 7. Nature of offense involved in conviction being challenged:  
Second-Degree Murder (implied) Murder W.D.W.



8. What was your plea? (check one)

- (a) Not guilty ☒  
(b) Guilty ☐  
(c) Guilty but mentally ill ☐  
(d) Nolo contendere ☐

9. If you entered a plea of guilty or guilty but mentally ill to one count of an indictment or information, and a plea of not guilty to another count of an indictment or information, or if a plea of guilty or guilty but mentally ill was negotiated, give details: N/A

10. If you were found guilty or guilty but mentally ill after a plea of not guilty, was the finding made by: (check one)

- (a) Jury ☒ (b) Judge without a jury ☐

11. Did you testify at the trial? Yes ☐ No ☒ FIRST TRIAL ONLY

12. Did you appeal from the judgment of conviction?

- Yes ☒ No ☐ FIRST and THIRD DIRECT APPEALS (2ND TRIAL MANDATE) #3857 #5809

13. If you did appeal, answer the following:

- (a) Name of court: SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA  
(b) Case number or citation: 33857, 5809, 6634  
(c) Result: REVERSAL - REMAND FOR PROSECUTIONS INCONSISTENT WITH ORDER AFFIRMING  
(d) Date of result: April 2, 2010 - April 10, 2013  
(Attach copy of order or decision, if available.)

14. If you did not appeal, explain briefly why you did not: N/A

15. Other than a direct appeal from the judgment of conviction and sentence, have you previously filed any petitions, applications or motions with respect to this judgment in any court, state or federal? Yes ☒ No ☐

16. If your answer to No. 15 was "yes," give the following information:

(a) (1) Name of court: U.S.D.C. CASE NO. 2:11-cr-0204-CMN

(2) Nature of proceeding: U.S.D.C. CASE NO. 2:12-cr-0136-MMD

28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3) Habeas Corpus 5th Violation by second trial as same offense after acquittal.

(3) Grounds raised: Double Jeopardy Violation by second trial jury panel sworn in with third trial pending with state proceeding with third trial in want of jurisdiction while appeal was pending.

1  
2 (4) Did you receive an evidentiary hearing on your  
petition, application or motion? Yes ☐ No ☒

3 (5) Result: SHOW CAUSE ORDERED TO DEFENDANT

4 (6) Date of result: Feb. 3, 2012

5 (7) If known, citations of any written opinion or  
date of orders entered pursuant to such result: being ultimately appealed to U.S. Supreme Court MAY 28, 2015 - Certiorari

6  
7 (b) As to any second petition, application or motion,  
give the same information:

8 (1) Name of court: \_\_\_\_\_

9 (2) Nature of proceeding: \_\_\_\_\_

10  
11 (3) Grounds raised: \_\_\_\_\_

12  
13 (4) Did you receive an evidentiary hearing on your  
petition, application or motion? Yes ☐ No ☐

14 (5) Result: \_\_\_\_\_

15 (6) Date of result: \_\_\_\_\_

16 (7) If known, citations of any written opinion or  
date of orders entered pursuant to such result: \_\_\_\_\_

17  
18 (c) As to any third or subsequent additional applications  
or motions, give the same information as above, list them on a  
separate sheet and attach.

19  
20 (d) Did you appeal to the highest state or federal court  
having jurisdiction, the result or action taken on any petition,  
application or motion?

21 (1) First petition, application or motion?  
Yes ☐ No ☐

22 Citation or date of decision: SEE INITIAL PETITION FILED  
AMENDED Sep. 15, 2014

23 (2) Second petition, application or motion?  
Yes ☐ No ☐

24 Citation or date of decision: \_\_\_\_\_

25 (3) Third or subsequent petitions, applications or  
motions? Yes ☐ No ☐

Citation or date of decision: \_\_\_\_\_

(e) If you did not appeal from the adverse action on any petition, application or motion, explain briefly why you did not. (You must relate specific facts in response to this question. Your response may be included on paper which is 8 1/2 by 11 inches attached to the petition. Your response may not exceed five handwritten or typewritten pages in length.)

APPEAL DENIAL OF P.F.R. 9th CIRCUIT CASE NO 1215271 on Feb. 2, 2015. CERTIFICATE REVIEW TO U.S. SUPREME COURT MAILED 6-22-15

17. Has any ground being raised in this petition been previously presented to this or any other court by way of petition for habeas corpus, motion, application or any other postconviction proceeding? If so, identify:

(a) Which of the grounds is the same: N/A

(b) The proceedings in which these grounds were raised: N/A

(c) Briefly explain why you are again raising these grounds. (You must relate specific facts in response to this question. Your response may be included on paper which is 8 1/2 by 11 inches attached to the petition. Your response may not exceed five handwritten or typewritten pages in length.)

N/A

18. If any of the grounds listed in Nos. 23(a), (b), (c) and (d), or listed on any additional pages you have attached, were not previously presented in any other court, state or federal, list briefly what grounds were not so presented, and give your reasons for not presenting them. (You must relate specific facts in response to this question. Your response may be included on paper which is 8 1/2 by 11 inches attached to the petition. Your response may not exceed five handwritten or typewritten pages in length.)

N/A

19. Are you filing this petition more than 1 year following the filing of the judgment of conviction or the filing of a decision on direct appeal? If so, state briefly the reasons for the delay. (You must relate specific facts in response to this question. Your response may be included on paper which is 8 1/2 by 11 inches attached to the petition. Your response may not exceed five handwritten or typewritten pages in length.)

NO, petition timely. PRO SE DEFENDANT REVIEW OF 2nd trial affirmed direct appeal - see O'Keefe v. Norwalk, 134 S.Ct. 444, 167 L.Ed. 297 case No. 13-6031 denied review October 15, 2013 with Norwalk Solicitor General

C. Wayne Hulse Filing NOTICE OF APPEARANCE FOR STATE. See N.S.C. docket #61631. U.S. Supreme Court notified N.S.C. -5- (on docket #61631)

005371

20. Do you have any petition or appeal now pending in any court as to judgment entered?  
Yes - United States Supreme Court Certiorari review, marked May 28, 2015.

21. Give name of each attorney who represented you.

Randy Pike; Patricia Palm; Jonell Thomas; Lance Manning; Brian O'Keefe - pro per;  
Amanda Gregory; Matthew Carling.

22. Do you have any future sentences to serve...  
No

(• see following <sup>SUPPLEMENTAL</sup> grounds 1-13 -): (APPENDIX OF <sup>SUPPLEMENTAL</sup> EXHIBITS 1-25)

23. State concisely every ground on which you claim that you are held unlawfully.

2.) Trial counsel was ineffective in failing to challenge the doctrine of the law of the case. This violated Petitioner's right to counsel, as guaranteed by Amendments 6 and 14 of the U.S. Constitution, see STRICKLAND v. WASHINGTON, 44 U.S. 668, 686-87, 104 S.Ct. 2062, 2063-64 (1984), in violating petitioner's due process and equal protection pursuant 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments. Strickland v. Washington, supra has been adopted in the state of Nevada as the standard. Strickland provides a two prong test which includes (1) whether counsel's representation fell below an objective standard of reasonableness, and (2) whether defendant was prejudiced to the extent that, but for counsel's errors, there was a reasonable probability of a different outcome. Petitioner clearly asserts that the following grounds 2.) through e.) will all be based on Ineffective Assistance of Counsel in violation of petitioner's right to counsel, as guaranteed by the 6<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, thereby violating due process and equal protection pursuant 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments.

2.) • Doctrine of the law of the case was not challenged from the ORDER (Exhibit 1) of Reversal and Remand, Nevada Supreme Court docket 53854.

• see McCaskill v. Nevada unpublished 2011 WL84683 (Nov 2011) (law case)



Strickland's first prong is met by trial counselor's failure to file the appropriate motion, challenging<sup>1</sup> the law-of-the-case that was established April 7, 2010. • Thus, where a judgment is reversed by an appellate court: • 1.) the judgment is final upon all questions decided and those questions are no longer open to consideration;

- 2.) the court to which the case is remanded can take only such proceedings as conform to the judgment of the appellate tribunal.

e.g. - (see State v. Haberstick, 119 Nev. 173 at 184, 69 P.3d 676 (2003))

- The law of the first appeal is the law of all subsequent appeals where facts remain same.

Here, in the instant case, the defense challenged the alternative means of the lesser included offense given, in the Fast Track Statement, on second degree murder. The state countered, with the trial court concurring, that the lesser included offense, defined by implied malice, was a correct statement of the law given many times in Nevada.<sup>2</sup>

Additionally, the state raised the sufficiency of evidence claim by the "Jackson" standard. see Jackson v. Virginia, 443 U.S. 307, 319 (1979) (exhibit 2) (Fast Track Response, issue 1, page 5, lines 14-17)

The ORDER OF REVERSAL AND REMAND answers both parties on direct appeal. Notwithstanding the argument concerning the "alleged" felony murder instruction, the court addressed the sufficiency of evidence raised by state, concluding that the burden of malice was not proved. The order reads, . . . "AND the evidence presented at trial did not support this theory of second-degree murder."

- SCHAD v. ARIZONA, infra - MALICE MURDER AND FELONY MURDER EQUAL SINGLE CRIME.

Strickland's second prong is met by prejudice resulting in another trial(s) on statutory murder with "malice aforethought." The omission

(fn1: entorcing and receiving.) - 6 (a) - (fn2: Labastida v. News, 112 N.W.2d 838)



of any defense, pertaining to the law-of-the-first-appeal, infringes also, "stare decisis". Had the state and court been forced to address the law-of-the-case, a different outcome would have existed, thereby defendant not prejudiced with prosecutorial misconduct.

Unlike other cases that conclude specifically, that a new trial will commence in the degree, petitioner's conclusion reads that:

- "Accordingly, we (see CRAWFORD, 96 P.3d 751 (conclusion) 2004, Nev.)

ORDER the judgment of conviction REVERSED AND REMAND this matter to the district court for proceedings consistent with this order. <sup>53</sup> (exhibit 1) ORDER OF REVERSAL AND REMAND)

At this point, the trial counsel should have made this clear case, supporting the reversal order on a viable protection of the decision.

Noting, the state wrongly charged murder via criminal complaint (exhibit 3) by "malice aforethought": The state alleged the malice, by the noticed separate source document of the willful and unlawful act of force, required for malice. (exhibit 4) BATTERY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: ABANDONMENT OF RIGHTS)

The battery act was listed as "stabbing" in the charging documents.  
(Labashide, 112 Nev. 1302 (N.R.S. 200.020 and N.R.S. 200.070 are harmonious, unlawful act = malice))

After concluding the state's Petrucci Hearing, on misdemeanor battery d.v. charges, enhanced only to a felony for punishment purposes, case C207833, the court allows the third misdemeanor battery d.v. to be introduced. The state immediately files an amended-information in another court room, later that day, unknown to defendant, dept. V. (exhibit 5) Amended Information Feb. 10, 2009 OPEN MALICE MURDER W-DAY.)

This charged "open malice murder" by stabbing, supporting the unlawful (malice) act, with all lesser included offenses by various means, mens rea.

- Opening statement by State. (Exhibit 7) (implied malice theory, pg. 171)  
Emphasizing the state charged one (1) single count of malice murder  
[Open] by the alleged "actus reus" of stabbing, however with all the various lesser included offenses, by lesser degrees of mens rea charged by alternative theories of criminal culpability. (Exhibit 6) ("Jury Instructions")

- Specifically, "J.I." No. 3 charges malice murder by stabbing.
- J.I. No. 4 explains to constitute crime, there must exist a union or joint operation of an act forbidden by law and an intent to do the act.  
Here, the act was charged as stabbing with various means, mens rea.
- J.I. No. 12 explains defendant is accused of a open murder which includes first, the lessers of secret, voluntary and involuntary manslaughter.
- J.I. No. 13, Murder is the unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought, either express or implied. The unlawful killing may be effected by various means. [mens rea]
- J.I. No. 14, Malice as applied to murder does not necessarily import ill will toward the victim, but signifies general malignant recklessness of others' lives and safety or disregard of social duty.
- J.I. No. 15 Express malice is that deliberate intention unlawfully to take away the life of another, premeditated.

Malice may be implied when no considerable provocation appears, or when all the circumstances of the killing show an abandoned and malignant heart.

- J.I. No. 18 MURDER OF THE SECOND DEGREE IS MURDER WHICH IS:

H.R.S. 200.010, (2) - An unlawful killing of a human being with "malice aforethought," but without  
"200.020" deliberation and premeditation, or [Alternative theory]  
#2 below

H.R.S. (2) - Where an involuntary killing occurs in the commission of an [malice] unlawful act, the natural consequences of which are dangerous to life, which act is intentionally performed by a person who knows that his conduct endangers the life of another, even though the person has not specifically formed an intention to kill.

Harmonies, eqpt. see laboratory, supra - 6 (c) -

005375

• NOTES (Emphasis, Attached is No. 24 in Involuntary Manslaughter, No Felony Elements)  
Felony murder per ROSE, 287

• J.I. No. 19, Malice aforethought means the intentional doing of a wrongful act...

(NRS 200.020) These instructions allowed the state to properly construct, by due process, the law of the trial, thereby charging acceptable alternatives to satisfy the mens rea required for murder of the second-degree based mainly on implied malice. Harmony exists between the states argument, made in their Fast Track Response, (exhibit 2, pg. 9, line 6) that J.I. No. 18 was "conceded" to be implied malice by "STEWING" of implied malice according with J.I. No. 15 (exhibit 6, line 5) which instructs that malice may be implied when... "SHOW" an abandoned and malignant heart.

(MAURICE - NRS 200.020) J.I. No. 18 (2) was the state's single concept of malice aforethought, implied. The statutory alternative as provision two (2) was the factors indicating malice, by the unlawful act which naturally tend to destroy the life of a human being. The implied malice instruction breaks into the physical component and the mental component. (actus reus and mens rea) Remembering, the actus reus stays the same for all levels or degree of homicide charged.

• see Barker v State, 30 P. 2d 1163, 117 Nev. at 644

The actus reus listed as stabbing and retrieved by the battery domestic violence charged clearly apprised all as to the method, occurred at.

(Exhibit 4) • NRS 200.461 Battery defined: "any willful and unlawful act of force"

Here the abandoned and malignant heart, mens rea, is listed in J.I. No. 18 (2) as:

... "which act is intentionally performed by a person who KNOWS that his conduct endangers the life of another, even though the person has not specifically formed an intention to kill.

(see SCHAP, 111 S. Ct. at 2506) (malice aforethought: "knowledge that an act causes death.) Nevada recognized in Crawford v. Nevada, 121 Nev. 746 Pn. 8 that they

have adopted the United States Supreme Court's rationale in  
SCHAD v. ARIZONA, 501 U.S. 624. (1991) (Plurality) (11 S. Ct. 2491)  
SCHAD, 111 S. Ct. at 2503,

"If however, two mental states are supposed to be  
equivalent means to satisfy the mens rea element of a single offense, they  
must reasonably reflect notions of equivalent blameworthiness or culpability [.]

SCHAD, 111 S. Ct. at 2497.

"In holding that the Government was not required  
to make the change in the alternative,"

Information need not specify  
which overt act, was means by which crime was committed, for  
alternatives.

In a pre-Schad decision by the Utah Supreme Court of  
State, MARQUEZ v. GUNN and Attorney General of California, 1914 U.S. App. LEXIS 10015  
10.93-55254 (9th Circuit June 21, 1914) "quoting" State v. Russell, 733 P.2d 162,  
167-68 (Utah 1987),

- concluding that the Sullivan rule<sup>3</sup> applied to  
alternative theories of second-degree murder.

As alternative means, Express and/or IMPLIED  
malice were constitutionally acceptable alternatives to satisfy the mens rea  
requirement (element) for the single crime of second-degree murder in that  
express and implied malice reflected equivalent blameworthiness.

Petitioner now needs to manifest that the state charged petitioner  
with Open "MAJORE" Murder, with the jury returning an implied verdict,  
when returning the second-degree murder W.D.W. jury verdict by the  
general verdict form utilized.<sup>4</sup> This lesser included guilty verdict  
(Fn3: People v. Sullivan, 173 N.Y.122, 65 N.E.2d 97) - 6(e) - (Fn4: exhibit 9, General verdict form)



From (62)  
(Continued from: Labastida v. Nev., 115 Nev. 218; STATE v. HALL, 54 Nev. 213; Carter, supra)

was based upon an unintentional, unpremeditated and undeliberated killing by the actor *reus* of stabbing, with the *mens rea* of the standard and malignant heart implied malice. Being the lesser included offense, to the charged first-degree, the unlawful act, noticed as a battery, was only the alleged felony unlawful act, being assaultive in nature, that merged within the malice for murder. see Rose v. State, 255 P.3d 291, 297 (Nevada Supreme Court Sept. 29, 2011) quoting People v. Jason Chen, 203 P.3d 425, 434 (2009) ("Thus, certain underlying felonies 'merge' with the homicide and and cannot be used for purposes of felony murder." *Id.* 203 P.3d 434-35)

Moreover, the State makes the judicial admission that F.I. No. 18, provision (2) was the single concept of implied malice. This issue was decided on direct appeal. Judicial estoppel clearly applies. The state cannot come back and state it was something different. see 9th v. Castillo-Basaz, 483 F.3d 890 (2007) at 899 F.3d (AUSA who made a truthful and accurate confession on record... evidence of government did not meet burden beyond reasonable doubt... now AUSA completely reversed its position... 9th notes this troubling reversal of position may violate our established judicial estoppel doctrine)

• See also FIVE STAR CAPITAL CORPORATION v. RUBY, 124 Nev. 104E, 174 P.3d 709 (2008)  
(Claim preclusion and Issue Preclusion - GROUNDS FOR ESTOPPEL)

In the Fast Track Response, (Exhibit 2) (Issues II, pgs 7-9 and VI, pg. 14) the state clearly admit F.I. 18 (2) is nothing more than showing implied malice. Malice aforethought is charged and defined by N.R.S. 200.020. The state's opening and closing argument express the unlawful act as stabbing. The Amended Information alleges the unlawful act as "and with malice aforethought" noticed as the battery d.v. charge.  
- (6(f)) -



IN EVANS v. MICH., 566 U.S. \_\_\_, 185 L. Ed. 2d 124 (2002) This court has held that a judicial acquittal premised upon a "misconstruction" of a criminal statute is an "acquittal on the merits ... [that] bars retrial." see Arizona v. Rumsey, 467 U.S. 203, 211 (1984) See no meaningful constitutional distinction between a trial court's "misconstruction" of a statute and its erroneous addition of a statutory element, we held ... is an acquittal."

Most relevant, we have defined an acquittal to encompass any ruling that the prosecution's proof is insufficient to establish criminal liability for an offense. • Burks v. U.S., 437 U.S. 1; U.S. v. Martin Linen Supply Co., 430 U.S. 564, 571 (1977) [Trial court instructional error irrelevant for dbl. jep.]

Regardless of any improper argument concerning J.I. No. 18, arguably, equal culpability with equal blameworthiness remain and held that only one single crime was defined, SECOND-DEGREE MURDER.

The state cannot change its theory of intentional unlawful stabbing as the actus reus. The Amended Information is constitutionally binding, i.e. - malice OPEN murder.

When the Nevada Supreme Court ruled that, "AND the evidence presented at trial did not support this theory of second-degree murder."

• see • Yeager v. United States, 1995 Ct. 230 (2001) One simply has to ask, "what did the theory consist of?" Looking at J.I. No 18 provision (2) (Exhibit 6), this theory held that a defendant who commits the intentional act who "KNOWS" that his conduct endangers the life of another, ... is the factor showing "implied malice."

Most IMPORTANTLY, the state "concedes" this in Fast Track Request, (Exhibit 2).

The reversal order therefore is tantamount to an acquittal for implied malice. The elements of intent, act, unlawful, and knowledge are barred. Malice aforethought was charged to the jury as S.I. No. 12. Malice may be express or implied. The state admitted on record, that was their malice showing, by the elements and factors in the provision, with the trial court CONCURRING.

When the Nevada Supreme Court stated, "We remand the proceedings consistent with this order, that did not mean another trial on the same statutory charge, rehashing the same evidence. There was no new evidence. This is also finally admitted by an attorney in his letter. see (exhibit 8) (dated 4-22-2013)

Additionally, the state lists a "false" case, phantom, as alleged new discovery, Case no. 0205165, when petitioner has never been charged with such a case number. All evidence was rehashed.

---

Finally, the closing argument of the first trial manifests several key notions of law concerning the law of this case. State explains malice can be implied or "the jury can imply malice when all of the circumstances of a killing 'show' an ABANDONED AND MALICIOUS HEART." (exhibit 11) (RCA 000298, RDT pg 135 lines 8-14)

That, "where the involuntary killing occurs in the commission of an unlawful act which in its consequences naturally tends to destroy the life of a human being, the offense is murder." (exhibit 11) (RCA 298, pg. 137, lines 25- to RCA 299, pg. 138, lines 1-3) This matches S.I. No. 18 (2), which matches the state's opening argument. (see exhibit 7)

State then describes "act" for jury. ... "It was willful. The act of STABBING Victoria was willful." (exhibit 11) (ROA 299, ROT pg. 139, lines 22-23)

Explaining malice aforethought the state charges,  
"And there was definitely malice aforethought, either express, definitely IMPLIED. O.KAY." ... (exhibit 11) (ROA 299, ROT pg. 140, lines 2-3)

State tells, "second degree would apply if defendant acted intentionally." (exhibit 11) (ROA 299, ROT pg. 300, lines 16-17)

Closing, first argument, by state;  
"The law says you determine a person's intent at the moment they commit the act... it doesn't make the underlying act [merged] any less criminal." (exhibit 11) (ROA 309, ROT pg. 176, lines 14-21)

"That's certainly circumstantial evidence of a battery or something [malice] that precipitated a stabbing." (exhibit 11) (ROA 308, ROT pg. 177, lines 1-2)

Finally, the state says,  
"but consistent with an accidental stabbing where you fall on top of the person holding the knife." (exhibit 11) (ROA 309, ROT 179, line 12-15)

The cause is clear, and caused by an external force, my then appointed attorney. Failure to challenge any action by the state, to proceed again, prejudiced defendant and if denied by the trial court, the law of the case would of had more than a reasonable probability of success on appeal, being freshly reversed. (exhibit 4) The fact also, that the U.S. District Court (exhibit 12) (case 2:11-cr-00201-GMH-ver January, 2012) divulged that the collateral estoppel doctrine applied viable validates any I.A.C. claim on this issue and others. Bolating this issue

is the Ninth Circuit's ORDER, (exhibit 13) (filed April 13, 2012) declaring, by the Certificate of Appealability panel, the double jeopardy claim was valid, colorable and granted an appeal notwithstanding the procedural issue causing the dismissal (CAUSED) by this same attorney. IN FACT, U.S. District Judge Navarro explains that the attorney raised the wrong double jeopardy operative facts and we all know why. (exhibit 12, pg 4, lines 10-14)

The 9th Circuit Order states they find at "least" one federal constitutional claim debatable among jurists of reason. That's because Mr. C'heke had raised a J.A.C. claim showing how the double jeopardy violation arose.

The fact that the state proceeded then caused the AFFIRMATIVE ORDER, of the third wrongful trial while appeal is still pending. (exhibit 14) (FILED APRIL 10, 2013 SDN No. 61634)

The double jeopardy claim affirmed also becomes challenging. The N.D.C. states the state was allowed to proceed on another theory, alternative, of second-degree murder that was presented at his first trial and alleged in the charging document.

Pointing out, there is and was only one theory and that theory was already given. IMPLIED MALICE, fin.

The Nevada Supreme Court was not made aware of the noticed Battery Domestic Violence: ADMONISHMENT OF CRIMES. Malice was the unlawful act alleged by the stepping.

Any implicit malice instructions must be estopped. The evidence presented at trial did not support the state's malice theory. How, Stare Decisis?



Concerning general verdicts, when two (2) or more verdicts, for any degree, are available, an appellate court cannot reverse even if there exists abuse of discretion in choosing another alternate theory. When only one theory is challenged the other remaining theory still underwent jeopardy. see • K-MART CORP. v. Washington, 109 Nev. 860, 864 P.2d 774

There are three sides to every story. One was the Fast Track Statement, misguided, and the second was the state's truth, on the instruction being only the concept of implied malice in the Fast Track Response. The third side was the decision made on direct appeal, #53839, being the doctrine of the law of the case, law of the first appeal.

This stands again that any issue decided is no longer open for consideration. There was no new evidence of facts warranting change.

As a matter of fact, there was less evidence presented in the second and third trial, but only beefed up, reheated evidence, trying to make a better, sound, argument. This evidence was barred.

~~When the Nevada Supreme Court stated for that issue decided, that the evidence presented at trial did not support [malice] the issue became decided. (see FINESTAR CAPITAL CORP. v. Ruby, supra (Rev.))~~

Proof of this is even made by the state in, (exhibit 15) (second-trial Rough Draft transcripts - J. T. 23) (Jury Trial #2 day 7 - Tuesday August 21, 2000, pg. 52)

The state claims the Nevada Supreme Court knows when a involuntary manslaughter would only become a second-degree murder. Also, the state admits the Nevada Supreme Court decided this issue and the evidence didn't support it. (exhibit 15, EOR, pg. 99, lines 7-23) Collateral / Judicial Estoppel applies. 5383



## CONCLUSION Ground (2)

Humbly, petitioner seeks protection pursuant the 14<sup>th</sup> under Benton v. Maryland, *infra*.

The petitioner places emphasis and wishes this Honorable Court to now recognize that this state petition relates back to the very heart and core of his initial (direct appeal) pretrial habeas corpus & 2241 petition, filed December 29, 2011 in the U.S. District Court proceeding the third trial petitioner contends that proceeded in want of jurisdiction. Despite the U.S. District Court's dismissal, the appeal is still pending. The 9<sup>th</sup> Circuits decision was appealed on May 28, 2015 to the U.S. Supreme Court by a pro-se Certiorari request.

• IN Conclusion of this ground, petitioner incorporates by reference, specifically exhibits 1 - 25 attached in supplemented appendix, all points, authorities, arguments, opinions, decisions which are now hereby repleaded in their entirety into this ground (2).

• PRAYER Whereby, in meeting clearly the standards set by strictest, as demonstrated and argued in ground (2) supported by ORDERS and exhibits, petitioner prays this honorable court will grant him an evidentiary hearing and appoint him counsel that will assist in manifesting the truth, professionally, thereby being granted relief under this immediate action.

Noting, the law library offers no access and any trained paralegals or clerks to assist. Petitioner wishes to have an experienced attorney who will truly assist in divulging constitutional errors manifesting a fundamental miscarriage of justice.

Mr. O'Keefe still contends that he is clearly being held in violation of the Constitution and the laws or treaties of the United States. Genesis of the double jeopardy violation was by the State proceeding on the same statutory offense. - 6 (1) -

GROUND 2

b.) Trial counsel was ineffective for failing to invoke the doctrine of collateral estoppel, on the elements of Jury Instruction No. 18, which referred to the factors, that the state concedes to in Post Trial Response, in Issues 22 and 23, that "show" implied malice by the abandoned and malignant heart mens rea instructed. This violated Petitioner's right to counsel, as guaranteed by Amendments 6 and 14 of the U.S. Constitution, see Strickland v. Washington, supra thereby violating petitioner's due process and equal protection pursuant 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

Counsel failed to argue; the two prongs of Strickland, supra provides (1) whether the counsel's representation fell below an objective standard of reasonableness, and (2) whether defendant was prejudiced to the extent that, but for counsel's errors, there was a reasonable probability of a different outcome. The "cause" is proven by failure to object, orally or by motion that the elements were barred on first direct appeal. By failing to protect petitioner's due process with equal protection afforded, by the express dicta of Benton v. Maryland, 395 U.S. 784 (1969), prejudice resulted by the state's continued harassment in another prosecution on malice implied, murder.<sup>5</sup> The state filed their new Second Amended Information (exhibit 19) charging again murder by malice aforethought. The state failed to consider the test adopted under Blockburger v. U.S., 284 U.S. 299 (1932) because the charging documents juxtaposed would clearly manifest that the state had proceeded on the same elements, actus reus and mens rea, statutory crime, for the same alleged tragic incident of November 5, 2002 equated of. Collateral Estoppel or issue preclusion bars the ultimate fact of malice to be relitigated. (Ins: State filed opposition which indicated on page 4, only "malice" murder. (exhibit 18))

The initial order reversing the case (exhibit 1) had decided the "issue" presented on direct appeal. Again, the state concedes this, then with knowledge, in exhibit (15) Atten, page 57.

When the order stated, "AND the evidence presented at trial did not support 'this theory' of second-degree murder."

What theory? The state's proffered theory (exhibit 2) that it was the factors indicating "Malice" as explained in Rose v. State, 255 P.2d 291, 299, F.H.

The elements of petitioner's J.T. #18 (2) was the factors defining NRS 200.020.

The language of NRS 200.020 anyway has been determined by the Nevada Supreme Court as being harmonious. If it doesn't support one theory, then it doesn't support murder in the second degree.

The state and defense try to persuade all that they were proceeding on a felony-murder theory by the felony-murder rule. This felony murder also is explained in Rose, supra that it must be an instruction also indicating the elements of second-degree felony murder explained in Morris, 109, 659 P.2d 832.

These additional elements also must be appended to NRS 200.020, the involuntary manslaughter instruction. Petitioner's involuntary manslaughter instruction, numbered 24 (exhibit 6), did not have these elements appended. This bolsters the fact that J.T. #18 was nothing more than the factors indicating implied malice.

According to Noonan v. State, 115 Nev. 144, 900 P.2d 637 (1994) they declare also that in Nevada, the involuntary manslaughter instruction can include felony murder because NRS 200.020 invokes the crime of felony murder.

Finally, the Supreme Court ruled in Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. v. Kelly, supra about the proper time to invoke estoppel to either issue preclusion or claim preclusion. Therefore, it becomes quite apparent petitioner's due process was violated when his trial counsel failed to invoke estoppel on notice ~~stated~~ specifically challenging to state in charging the elements of, KNOWLEDGE, UNLAWFUL, ACT, and intent to do the act itself.

(incorporated by reference) In conclusion of this ground, i.e., (b), petitioner incorporates specifically exhibits 1-20 attached, with all points, authorities, arguments, opinions, decisions which are now hereby repleaded in their entirety into this ground (b).

• PRAYER

Whereby, in meeting the standards set by Strickland, as demonstrated above in ground (b), petitioner prays this honorable court will grant him an evidentiary hearing and appoint him counsel that will assist in manifesting the truth, professionally, thereby being granted relief under this immediate action. ~~Noting again, there is no access to the law library, system is deficient; by type request.~~

Equal protection to all is mandated by the 14th Amendment due process. see Bartley v. Mitchell, 395 U.S. 784 (1969). Petitioner places emphasis that this issue relates back to the core of the pretrial habeas corpus petition filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3). This petition is still in direct review viz Certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court from 9th Circuit case number 12-15271 mailed 5-22-15.



GROUND 3

C.) My trial attorney was ineffective for failing to challenge the state "notice" no new actus reus to support implied malice "unlawful act." Repeated same theory. This violated Petitioner's right to counsel, as guaranteed by Amendments 6 and 14 of the U.S. Constitution - see Strickland v. Washington, supra thereby violating petitioner's due process pursuant to 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment with equal protection.

Counsel failed to challenge the state's new filed second amended information (exhibit 18), filed under erroneous case number 02500 630. This charging document was not underpinned by any "notice" of any felony unlawful act, as previously filed for the first trial. (exhibit 4)

This case meets the first prong of Strickland. The second prong is met by the pure prejudice of the prosecutorial misconduct in the stress, harassment, embarrassment, expense, anxiety and loss of liberty.

The law clearly dictates every crime consists of an unlawful act and an intent to do the act, knowingly -

Implied malice is primarily an unintentional, unpremeditated, undeliberated killing in the commission [or resulting from] of an unlawful act, natural consequences are dangerous to life. This is the physical component.

The triology is when one is charged with malice murder by an alleged battery act, actus reus, the battery becomes the ultimate element of the charged malice murder. Being assaultive in nature, it merges with, by law for second-degree, the murder. Here, when the Nevada Supreme Court reversed, (exhibit 1),



the unlawful act was binding as the constitutionally charged Barker. (exhibit 4)  
This is also confirmed by the state's opening statement, (exhibit 7) and  
case in chief, closed out by jury instructions and closing argument. (exhibit 11)

This omission by the state violated not only procedural due process,  
but embarks substantive due process being completely unfair.

Attorney's failure to challenge allowed the state actors to behave  
as mischievous prosecutors destroying Mr. O'Keeffe equal protection  
of due process pursuant the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

(INFORMING BY REFERENCE)

IN CONCLUSION, ground (c), petitioner incorporates specifically exhibits 1-20  
attached, with all points, authorities, arguments, opinions, decisions which  
are now hereby repleaded in their entirety into this ground (c).

• PRAYER

Whereby, in meeting  
the standards pursuant Strickland, as demonstrated above in  
ground (c), petitioner prays this honorable court will grant him an  
~~evidentiary hearing and appoint counsel that will assist in~~  
manifesting the truth, professionally, thereby being granted relief  
under this immediate action.

Noting again, there is no law library  
access based on a deficient system.

Moreover, petitioner again places  
great emphasis in that this issue is tried and relates back to  
the core of his, still pending, pretrial habeas corpus pursuant  
28 U.S.C. § 2241 (c)(3) direct review via Certiorari review to  
the U.S. Supreme Court marked 5-20-15.

#### Ground 4

d) Trial Counsel was ineffective in failing to challenge the rehashing of evidence and using misdeemeanor 3<sup>rd</sup> in its case-in-chief. This violated petitioner's right to counsel as guaranteed by Amendment's 6 and 14 of the U.S. Constitution. see STRICKLAND v. WASHINGTON, supra thereby violating Petitioner's due process pursuant the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment with equal protection.

Counsel failed to challenge the state rehashing all evidence subsequent the reversal order stating, "And the evidence presented at trial did not support this theory of second-degree murder". (exhibit 1)

This was caused by the attorney meeting now the first prong of Strickland. The prejudicial resulted in another two trials all using the same evidence which clearly satisfies the second prong.

The law of the case dictates that once an issue has been litigated it is final. No new facts or especially the same evidence may be used to give a more heated appeal argument on the same claim decided, with or involving the same parties. see FIVE STAR CAPITAL (LLP) v. Ruby, supra (Nov 2008)

Additionally, in U.S. v. Castillo-Basa, supra (9th Cir. 2007) the court explains that collateral estoppel applies to evidentiary facts.

• i.d. at, 483 U.S. 897 FN4.

Rehashing of evidence previously presented in an issue that has been decided in favor of defendant justifies

invoking the estoppel doctrine. \*See Ashe v. Swenson, 397 U.S. 436, 443  
see also U.S. v. Sacco, 596 F.2d 404, at 407. (Such a reheating of  
evidence previously presented would clearly be prohibited by the estoppel  
doctrine.)

Reheating of evidence is prohibited by the Double  
JEOPARDY CLAUSE. see also U.S. v. FICHARDT, 622 F.2d at 702

The state of Nevada not only reheated all evidence already used,  
they tell an untruth and create false discovery alleged under  
a bogus case number, \* 0205165, (exhibit 10).

A post conviction attorney, appointed by the court, also divulges  
to me by letter that quote,

"You are absolutely correct that  
the evidence in all the trials is the same, albeit reheated with  
"more backed up argument." (Exhibit 8)

A key argument is that the  
state proceeded with two more trials on reheated evidence.

The state even had less, and the second trial jury hung.

The state was prohibited from using all of the same evidence.

The attorney failed to protect petitioner's rights clearly.

When the state noticed their "second" petrocelli hearing, this  
hearing was a sham, for the state presented to the court,  
the exact same evidence reviewed in the first petrocelli hearing  
held February 10, 2009. My attorney was ineffective in not  
realizing the evidence was reheated and a fake case  
despite me even telling her case 0205165 was not my case.

This rehashing of misdemeanors enhanced also to a felony was a violation. Misdemeanors cannot be presented. NRS. 50.075

Attorney performance fell below an acceptable standard. Any other attorney would love to be able to stop the state from prosecutorial misconduct in proceeding with no new evidence.

In conclusion of grand (d), petitioner incorporates by reference specifically exhibits 1-20 attached, with all points, authorities, arguments, opinions, decisions which are now hereby repeated in their entirety into this grand (d).

• Prayer

Whereby in meeting the standards pursuant Strickland, as demonstrated above in grand (d), petitioner prays this honorable court will grant him an evidentiary hearing and appoint counsel that will assist in maintaining the truth, professionally, thereby being granted relief under this immediate action.

Noting again, there is no access to law library based on a detainee Kyle system.

Moreover, petitioner constantly points out this petition relates back to the core of the initial direct review of his petrial habeas corpus matter pursuant 28 U.S.C. § 2241 (d)(1) which is currently submitted for certiorari review by the U.S. Supreme Court mailed 5-28-15 from 9th Circuit decision rendered in case 12-15271.



GROUND 5

c) Trial counsel was ineffective for failing to raise correct double jeopardy operative facts. This violated Petitioner's right to counsel as guaranteed by Amendments 6 and 14 of the U.S. Constitution. see STRICKLAND v. WASHINGTON, supra thereby violating petitioner's collateral estoppel made embodied in the 5<sup>th</sup> amendment, which protection is made applicable to the states by the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment pursuant Benton v. Maryland, 395 U.S. 784, 795-96.

Newark has adopted Strickland, supra and its two (2) prong test. Here, the first prong was fulfilled as the attorney being the external force, and failing to raise the correct double jeopardy operative facts, at that time. This is below any reasonable standard in which an attorney would perform. The U.S. District Court, in prereview of petitioner's habeas matter under 2241, even recognized this omission clearly.

(exhibit 12) (Page 4, lines 10-11, "...not the same claim!")

The second prong is clearly met for a myriad of reasons. Prima facie evidence of the U.S. orders clearly established proof far beyond any reasonable doubt. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals even issued a Certificate of Appealability recognizing the initial "I.A.C." claim petitioner had made. (exhibit 13) (COA) See also now (exhibit 21) (Attorney's Petition for Writ of Habeas S.C.N. No. 58101)

IN the 9<sup>th</sup> order of "COA" they opine they conclude that petitioner's pretrial habeas corpus petition stated at least one federal constitutional claim, ..., namely, a double jeopardy violation.

All just were apparently wondering that in the first instance, why the heck wouldn't any attorney filing a double jeopardy claim present any/all of the interrelated doctrines, at that time, for all judicial economy, time!



The 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit had just concluded a very similar case on the double jeopardy doctrines for review. See Wilson v. Bellegere, 554 F.3d 816, 828-29 (2018). The court explains the FIFTH AMENDMENT'S protection against double jeopardy, is made applicable to the States by the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment; (Borden) bars both 1) same offense; 2) issue preclusion; 3) termination of jeopardy.

Petitioner contends that he in fact meets all (B) doctrines above.  
#1) The state charged same offense, statutory charge malice murder; (exhibit 19)  
#2) the issue on malice implied was litigated and ruled in favor of the petitioner on implied malice, act and intent incorporated in F.I. 18; (exhibit 1); #3) termination of jeopardy on malice required for second-degree murder. (exhibit 1) (ORDER REAS, "AND the evidence did not support... F.I. 18")

Simply, the Court needs to run a Blockburger test on the two Amended Informations concerning the statutory crime and elements. See (exhibit 5) juxtaposed to (exhibit 19) considering (exhibit 1) / simple.

The attorney could have referred to FIVE STAR CAPITAL CORP v. Ruby, supra (Nov. 2008) for State direction concerning claim, preclusion and issue preclusion - (Res Judicata - Collateral Estoppel) When to invoke estoppel.

However, the now appointed attorney raises that another trial, specifically the third, from the second trial mistrial as the operative facts.

Petitioner was claiming the second trial, based on above, was a violation of the double jeopardy clause when the second jury panel was sworn in on August 25, 2010. Properly, review should be by the trial court that helmed the court of both trials involved in this claim. This Court is also aware all evidence was reheard and the court was aware the issue was already decided.

Particularly troubling is the court appointed attorney makes several wrongful claims and omits issue "F" from defendant's Fast Track Statement, # 53859. First, she omits issue "F", which the state answers as J.I. #18 being only implied malice and a correct statement of the law with the judge concurring - (exhibit 2) (page 14). Second, attorney claims in the writ, (exhibit 21) (page 25, lines 20-25) quote,

"... there was no good cause for the further delay caused by redetermining the law-of-the-case to allow "new" evidence for which inadequate discovery had been provided until after retrial call."...

This would mislead any judge in the future thinking there was new evidence. Wrong!

Third, the new evidence was logus! Prosecutorial misconduct.

This new alleged discovery was the fake case number. (exhibit 10) (discovery request (FAKE-FAKE) case No. C205165)

Fourth, the Second petracelli hearing was on the exact evidence.

Judge Villani ruled twice, during appeal to 9th circuit after COA was granted, that the same 3rd misdemeanor only enhanced to a felony could be used against even the ruling of the law of the case. He cannot bring in any betteries, especially not alleged in charging document. Moreover, issue preclusion barred it, Fin!

The trial court was buffeted by the state. At least, I went to believe this in my heart that no man could, as a judge, allow such unGOBLY acts as an honorable man, "Justice"!

IN Conclusion of ground (e.), petitioner incorporates by reference specifically exhibits 1-22 attached, with all points, authorities, misapplied arguments, good arguments, correct legally arguments, opinions, decisions, which are now hereby repleaded in their entirety into this ground (e).

My attorney's performance fell unacceptably below the Strickland or "any" standard. I only want to correct and forgive, all!

• PRAYER

Whereby in UNDISPUTEDLY meeting the standards of EQUAL PROTECT standard when proven, the Strickland prongs have been satisfied in the D.A.C. claim demonstrated above in ground (e). Petitioner prays this honorable court will grant him an evidentiary hearing if needed, and appoint counsel that will assist in manifesting the ugly truth, quietly and professionally, thereby granting relief under this immediate action.

Re-emphasizing, there is no sufficient law library system at U.C.C. No physical access, type system, and no transit staff to assist.

"Legally," pointing out "this action" is directly tied to the very heart and core of the still pending pretrial federal habeas corpus petition filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 (c)(3) that raised the specific argument concerning the D.A.C. of some counsel and the double jeopardy claim on act and intent, same offense. Certiorari review filed May 28, was from appeal of 9th circuit case no. 12-15271.

GRAND 6  
f.)

The district court erred in determining that Involuntary Manslaughter is not a lesser included offense to second degree murder failing to instruct jury. This violated Petitioner's Constitutional due process thereby denying equal protection of the law pursuant the 5<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments and Nevada Constitution and NRS 175.501, and FEDERAL RULE 31(c).

- After filing and proceeding in the first trial, on an OPEN malice murder charge including all lessers, in the first instance, the trial court then violates not only petitioner's due process, but infringes on the judicial estoppel doctrine he, "alone," set on approved in the first trial, then allowing involuntary.

First, N.R.S. 200.070 is embodied and approved as a lesser included to second-degree, especially when there exist undisputable proof way beyond a shred, being the only requirement for such instruction to be given. See Ross v. State, 122 Nev. 1258, 1263 69, 143 P.3d 1101, 1115-01 (2000) (setting forth requirements for entitlement to instruction on lesser included offense); (~~In the Matter of Simon~~, 31 Nev. 531, 535, 103 P. 1075, 1079) (Involuntary Manslaughter is a lesser degree of [second] murder).

(• see Barker, 117 Nev. 687 citing Libby v. State, 22 Nev. 183 (1906)) Petitioner's proposed instruction was appropriately tailored to his theory given in the first trial and specifically to the facts asserted, self defense resulting in accidental death. see Barker v. State, 124 Nev. \_\_\_, 102 P.3d 657, 662 (2008) (instructions should be tailored to case)

Noting that this proffered instruction was an available alternative by NRS 200.070 (1) and a correct statement of law. NRS 200.070(1) defines this lesser included alternative as such, being relevant here:



(NR3 2007 (1))

- [I]nvoluntary manslaughter is the killing of a human being, without any intent to do so, in the commission of an unlawful act, or a lawful act which probably might produce such a consequence in an unlawful manner, but where the . . .

O'Keefe's proposed change:  
Involuntary manslaughter is the unintentional killing of a human being without notice or thought, but where the commission of a lawful act, which might probably produce such consequence in an unlawful manner.

If Brian O'Keefe unintentionally or accidentally killed Victoria Whitmarsh during a lawful act, but in doing so acted with wanton or reckless disregard for human life that is not of the extreme nature that will support a finding of implied malice, then the crime is involuntary manslaughter and not second-degree murder.

Again, this is a correct statement of law tailored to the specific facts, evidence, and testimony.

~~Involuntary manslaughter requires proof that the defendant acted with only gross negligence, defined as "wanton or reckless disregard for human life"~~ but not of the extreme nature as will support a finding of implied malice. see United States v. Clarke, 563 F.3d 908, 923 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2009); Cal. Jury Instr., Crim. (CALJIC), 7<sup>th</sup> ed., section 8.51.

The (3) experts ruled and testified, at 2<sup>nd</sup> trial, that suicide accident could ~~(be)~~ ruled out based on the physical evidence of the case. (Exhibit 21) (page 20 lines 11-24) Again, could not be ruled out.

Emphasis: The Nevada Supreme court already also had ruled the evidence presented at trial did not support second-degree murder.

Self defense itself has been ruled to negate malice, even an honest unreasonable amount of force. There was no evidence of any domestic dispute for there was none. Testimony explained Mr. O'Keefe had dropped Mr. Whitmarsh and the police stepped possible and kicked Mr. Whitmarsh when apprehending petitioner.

The police were unaware of Ms. Whitmarsh's cruelties and history of suicides and acts of cutting with knives and scissors. (see exhibit 22) (Mental History... suicides... cutting)

They especially were unaware of her prior outbursts and attacks on her estranged husband and her current mandated attendance in anger management.

As appointed counsel did represent in her Whit, #58109 (exhibit 21) (page 30, lines 6-19) the evidence clearly supported a finding that petitioner may have been out in self defense, by grabbing the blade. Mr. O'Keefe told police Victoria tried to stab him, too. Extreme intoxication also played a vital role in which the police committed perjury in denying the existence of the use of force, which changed, as a matter of the court record, petitioner was extremely intoxicated. This specific discovery request was also a Brady violation.

Despite all, the denial of Petitioner's right to have the jury instructed on his theory of an accident in self defense, was an arbitrary unreasonable determination of facts that are clearly contradicted by "Clear and Convincing" evidence IN THE RECORD of my case, wrongfully charged by state. Recent law; it is also unreasonable for a state to resolve credible disputed issues of material fact without holding an evidentiary

1 The State contended that the evidence would explain why Whitmarsh  
2 returned to a relationship with O'Keefe, 14 APP 2555-57, but this was  
3 irrelevant, and delay related to this evidence is not supported by good cause.

4 **II. DUE PROCESS REQUIRES JURY INSTRUCTION ON**  
5 **INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER.**

6 The district court erred in determining that Involuntary  
7 Manslaughter is not a lesser included offense to Second-Degree Murder. 12  
8 APP 2076. The denial of O'Keefe's request for an Involuntary Manslaughter  
9 instruction deprived him of constitutional due process. All of the elements of  
10 Involuntary Manslaughter are included in Second-Degree Murder, and some  
11 evidence supported the finding of Involuntary Manslaughter. See Rosas v.  
12 State, 122 Nev. 1258, 1263-69, 147 P.3d 1101, 1105-09 (2006) (setting forth  
13 requirements for entitlement to instruction on lesser included offense); In  
14 the Matter of Somers, 31 Nev. 531, 535, 103 P.1073, 1074 (1909)  
15 (Involuntary Manslaughter is a lesser degree of Murder). O'Keefe's  
16 proposed instruction was also appropriately tailored to the facts in this case.  
17 See Brooks v. State, 124 Nev. \_\_\_, 180 P.3d 667, 662 (2008) (instructions  
18 should be tailored to the case).

19 O'Keefe's proposed instruction provided as follows:

20 Involuntary manslaughter is the unintentional killing of a  
21 human being without malice aforethought, but in the  
22 commission of a lawful act which might probably produce such  
consequence in an unlawful manner.

23 If Brian O'Keefe unintentionally or accidentally killed  
24 Victoria Whitmarsh during a lawful act, but in doing so acted  
25 with wanton or reckless disregard for human life that is not of  
26 the extreme nature that will support a finding of implied malice,  
then the crime is involuntary manslaughter and not second-  
degree murder.

27 7 APP 1057. This instruction was a correct statement of the law. NRS  
28 200.070(1) defines involuntary manslaughter, as relevant here:

1 [I]nvoluntary manslaughter is the killing of a human  
 2 being, *without any intent to do so*, in the commission of an  
 3 unlawful act, or a *lawful act which probably might produce such*  
 4 *a consequence in an unlawful manner*, but where the  
 5 involuntary killing occurs in the commission of an unlawful act,  
 6 which, in its consequences, naturally tends to destroy the life of  
 a human being, or is committed in the prosecution of a felonious  
 intent, the offense is murder.

7 NRS 200.010(1) provides that murder is the unlawful killing of a  
 8 human being with malice aforethought, either express or implied. NRS  
 9 200.020(1) defines express malice as "that deliberate intention unlawfully to  
 10 take away the life of a fellow creature, which is manifested by external  
 11 circumstances capable of proof." The crime of Second-Degree Murder may  
 12 involve an intentional killing with express malice but without the admixture  
 13 of premeditation and deliberation, i.e., a killing that is the result of  
 14 passionate impulse but not within the definition of manslaughter. Byford v.  
 15 State, 116 Nev. 215, 236 & n.4, 994 P.2d 700, 714 & n.4 (2000). The  
 16 alternative form of Second-Degree Murder relevant here is based on implied  
 17 malice. Malice is implied "when no considerable provocation appears, or  
 18 when all the circumstances of the killing show an abandoned and malignant  
 19 heart." NRS 200.020(2). "Abandoned and malignant heart" refers to an  
 20 extreme recklessness regarding homicidal risk. Collman v. State, 116 Nev.  
 21 687, 712-13, 7 P.3d 426, 442 (2000). See also Keys v. State, 104 Nev. 736,  
 22 738, 766 P.2d 270, 271 (1988) (implied malice signifies a general malignant  
 23 recklessness of others' lives). For an implied malice murder, where the  
 24 felony murder rule is not applicable, the defendant must intend to commit  
 25 acts that are likely to cause death and that show a conscious disregard for  
 26 human life. Collman, 116 Nev. at 716, 7 P.3d at 444; United States v.  
 27 Mottweiler, 82 F.3d 769, 771 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1996) (criminal recklessness requires  
 28 that the actor is conscious of a substantial risk that the prohibited events  
 will come to pass).



1 In contrast, Involuntary Manslaughter requires proof that the  
 2 defendant acted with gross negligence, defined as "wanton or reckless  
 3 disregard for human life" but not of the extreme nature as will support a  
 4 finding of implied malice. United States v. Crowe, 563 F.3d 969, 973 (9<sup>th</sup>  
 5 Cir. 2009); Cal. Jury Instr., Crim. (CALJIC), 7<sup>th</sup> ed., Section 8.51.

6 The evidence here supported a finding that O'Keefe may have been cut  
 7 by grabbing the knife blade in self-defense, 10 APP 1590-94, 1596. He told  
 8 police that Whitmarsh tried to stab him. 10 APP 1699. There was disarray  
 9 in the bedroom indicating a struggle. O'Keefe was extremely intoxicated  
 10 and failed to respond appropriately once Whitmarsh was injured. A jury  
 11 could find from this evidence that O'Keefe acted in self-defense but in a  
 12 grossly negligent manner. The denial of O'Keefe's right to have the jury  
 13 instructed on this lesser offense unfairly risked conviction, and, combined  
 14 with the prosecutorial misconduct, likely led to the deadlocked jury. See  
 15 Rosas, 122 Nev. at 1264, 147 P.3d at 1106 (instruction on lesser is required  
 16 because of the "substantial risk" that a jury will convict despite a failure to  
 17 prove the charged offense if the defendant appears guilty of some offense). If  
 18 O'Keefe is required to stand trial again, Due Process requires that he be  
 19 granted the Involuntary Manslaughter Instruction.

### 20 CONCLUSION

21 For all of the foregoing reasons, Petitioner Brian O'Keefe respectfully  
 22 requests that this Court grant him the relief requested herein.

23 Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

24 /s/

25 Patricia A. Palm, Bar No. 6009  
 26 1212 S. Casino Center Blvd.  
 27 Las Vegas, Nevada, 89104  
 28 (702) 386-9113  
 Attorney for Brian O'Keefe

12-1577

**VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEVADA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF CLARK )

PATRICIA PALM, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

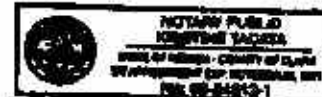
1. That she is an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of Nevada and is the attorney appointed to represent Mr. O'Keefe herein.
2. That Counsel has read the foregoing Petition for Writ of Mandamus, or in the Alternative, Writ of Prohibition, and Request for Stay of Trial, and knows the contents therein and as to those matters they are true and correct and as to those matters based on informed and belief she is informed and believes them to be true.
3. That Mr. O'Keefe has no other remedy at law available to him and that the only means to address this problem is through the instant writ.
4. That Counsel signs this Verification on behalf of Mr. O'Keefe, under his direction and authorization and further states that Mr. O'Keefe is currently in custody of the authorities of the Clark County Detention Center.

Further your Affiant sayeth naught.  
Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

  
PATRICIA A. PALM

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me  
This 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011, by Patricia Palm.

Notary Public



**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

I hereby certify that I have read this Petition, and to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, it is not frivolous or interposed for any improper purpose. I further certify that this Petition complies with all applicable Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, in particular NRAP 28(e), which requires every assertion in the brief regarding matters in the record, to be supported by appropriate references to the record on appeal. I understand that I may be subject to sanctions in the event that the accompanying Petition is not in conformity with the requirements of the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure.

DATED: April 7, 2011.

/S/

PATRICIA PALM  
NEVADA BAR NO. 6009  
PALM LAW FIRM, LTD.  
1212 S. CASINO CENTER BLVD.  
LAS VEGAS NV 89104  
(702) 386-9113  
Attorney for Petitioner

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that on the 7th day of April, 2011, she personally delivered a copy of the foregoing Petition for Writ of Mandamus, or in the Alternative, a Writ of Prohibition and Appendices to The Honorable Michael P. Villani, RJC, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Department 17, 200 Lewis Ave., Las Vegas NV 89155, by leaving a copy at his chambers with Cindy DeGree, his Judicial Executive Assistant, who accepted the documents on his behalf.

It is understood that counsel for Respondent will be served via the e-filing system.

Dated this 7th day of April, 2011.

/S/  
PATRICIA A. PALM  
PALM LAW FIRM, LTD.

12-15271



**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK**

**BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,**  
Petitioner,

**Supreme Court No. 58109**  
**District Court Case No. C250630**

vs.

**THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, IN AND FOR  
THE COUNTY OF CLARK; AND THE  
HONORABLE MICHAEL VILLANI, DISTRICT  
JUDGE,**

Respondents,

and

**THE STATE OF NEVADA,**  
Real Party in Interest.

**RECEIPT FOR DOCUMENTS**

**TO: Hon. Michael Villani, District Judge  
Palm Law Firm, Ltd./Patricia A. Palm  
Attorney General/Carson City/Catherine Cortez Masto, Attorney General  
Clark County District Attorney/Steven S. Owens, Chief Deputy District Attorney**

**You are hereby notified that the Clerk of the Supreme Court has received and/or filed  
the following:**

**4/8/11 Filing fee waived. Criminal.**  
**4/8/11 Filed Petition for Writ of Mandamus, or, In the Alternative, Writ of  
Prohibition, and Request for Stay of Trial.**  
**4/8/11 Filed Appendix to Petition for Writ Volumes 1 through 14.**

**DATE: April 08, 2011**

**Tracie Lindeman, Clerk of Court**

12-15271

005306

exhibit 22

Case No. 0250630

Defense MOTION : SUICIDES, inter alia

FILED Jul 21 2010

exhibit 22

001  
PALM LAW FIRM, LTD.  
PATRICIA PALM, ESQ.  
NEVADA BAR NO. 6009  
1212 CASINO CENTER BLVD.  
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Phone: (702) 388-9113  
Fax: (702) 386-9114  
Email: [Patricia.palm@palmfirm.com](mailto:Patricia.palm@palmfirm.com)  
Attorney for Brian O'Keefe

**FILED**

JUL 21 2010

*Off. of the*  
CLERK OF COURT

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

STATE OF NEVADA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

BRIAN K. O'KEEFE,

Defendant.

CASE NO: C250630

DEPT. NO: XVII

DATE: *Aug 3, 2010*

TIME: *8:15 A*

**NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION BY DEFENDANT O'KEEFE TO ADMIT  
EVIDENCE PERTAINING TO THE ALLEGED VICTIM'S MENTAL HEALTH  
CONDITION AND HISTORY, INCLUDING PRIOR SUICIDE ATTEMPTS, ANGER  
OUTBURSTS, ANGER MANAGEMENT THERAPY, SELF-MUTILATION  
AND ERRATIC BEHAVIOR**

COMES NOW Defendant Brian K. O'Keefe, by and through his attorney, Patricia Palm of Palm Law Firm, Ltd., and hereby moves this Honorable Court for an order allowing him to introduce evidence of the alleged victim's mental health condition and history, including prior suicide attempts, anger outbursts, anger management therapy, self-mutilation, and erratic behavior.

This Motion is made and based upon the record in this case, including the papers and pleadings on file herein, the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Nevada, the points and authorities set forth below, and any argument of counsel at the

///

time of the hearing on this Motion.

Dated this 21st day of July, 2010.

PALM LAW FIRM, LTD.



Patricia Palm, Bar No. 6009  
1212 Casino Center Blvd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89104  
Phone: (702) 386-9113  
Fax: (702) 386-9114  
Attorney for Defendant O'Keefe

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

TO: STATE OF NEVADA, Plaintiff, and

TO: DAVID ROGER, District Attorney, Attorney for Plaintiff

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned will bring on the above and foregoing MOTION BY DEFENDANT O'KEEFE TO ADMIT EVIDENCE PERTAINING TO THE ALLEGED VICTIM'S MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION AND HISTORY, INCLUDING PRIOR SUICIDE ATTEMPTS, ANGER OUTBURSTS, ANGER MANAGEMENT THERAPY, SELF-MUTILATION AND ERRATIC BEHAVIOR on the 3 day of Aug, 2010, at the hour of 8:15 a.m., in Department No. XVII of the above-entitled Court, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard.

DATED this 21st day of July, 2010.

PALM LAW FIRM, LTD.



By: PATRICIA PALM  
Nevada Bar No. 6009  
1212 Casino Center Blvd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89104  
(702) 386-9113  
Attorney for Defendant O'Keefe



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POINTS AND AUTHORITIES  
PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The State charged Defendant Brian K. O'Keefe with murder with use of a deadly weapon. He entered a plea of not guilty and invoked his right to a speedy trial. The State filed a motion to admit evidence of other crimes, which O'Keefe opposed. The Court ruled that the State could introduce evidence of threats to the alleged victim Victoria Whitmarsh, which witness Cheryl Morris claims were made by O'Keefe, and his claim of proficiency at killing with knives, which Morris claims to have witnessed. The Court further ruled that the State could introduce certified copies of the prior Judgment of Conviction for felony domestic battery, which involved Whitmarsh. Further, if O'Keefe testified, then the State could inquire into his other prior felony convictions. Pursuant to the Court's ruling on his prior Judgments of Conviction, the State is permitted to introduce only the details of when O'Keefe was convicted, in which jurisdiction, and the name of the offenses, and with the felony domestic battery, the fact that Whitmarsh had testified against him in that case. 3/16/09 TT 2-10.

The instant case was tried before this Honorable Court beginning March 16, 2009. O'Keefe was prohibited from introducing evidence regarding Whitmarsh's mental health condition which caused her to be erratic, have uncontrolled anger, attempt suicide by overdosing and cutting herself with knives and scissors when stressed, and required anger management therapy. After five days of trial, on March 20, 2009, the jury returned a verdict finding O'Keefe guilty of second degree murder with use of a deadly weapon. On May 5, 2009, this Court sentenced O'Keefe to 10 to 25 years for second-degree murder and a consecutive 96 to 240 months (8 to 20 years) on the deadly weapon enhancement.

O'Keefe timely appealed to the Nevada Supreme Court. After briefing, the Court reversed O'Keefe's conviction, agreeing with him that the district court "erred by giving the State's proposed instruction on second-degree murder because it set forth an alternative theory of second-degree murder, the charging document did not allege this alternate theory, and no evidence supported this theory." The Court explained, "the

1 State's charging document did not allege that O'Keefe killed the victim while he was  
2 committing an unlawful act and the evidence presented at trial did not support this  
3 theory of second-degree murder." O'Keefe v. State, NSC Docket No. 53859, Order of  
4 Reversal and Remand (April 7, 2010). The Court further stated, "The district court's  
5 error in giving this instruction was not harmless because it is not clear beyond a  
6 reasonable doubt that a rational juror would have found O'Keefe guilty of second-  
7 degree murder absent the error." Id. at 2. Having reversed on this ground, the Court  
8 declined to address O'Keefe's remaining contentions, which included a contention that  
9 the district court erred by refusing O'Keefe's request to present evidence of Whitmarsh's  
10 prior suicide attempts, anger outbursts, anger management therapy, self-mutilation, and  
11 erratic behavior.

12 After remand to this Court, trial was reset to begin on August 23, 2010.

#### 13 STATEMENT OF FACTS

14 The prior trial testimony in this case showed that Brian O'Keefe and Victoria  
15 Whitmarsh met in a treatment facility in 2001. 3/17/09 TT 18, 3/19/09 TT 183-84. They  
16 dated and co-habitated off and on and had what could be described as a very  
17 tumultuous relationship. 3/19/09 TT 186-90. In 2004, O'Keefe was convicted of  
18 burglary for entering into the couple's joint dwelling with the intent to commit a crime  
19 against Whitmarsh. O'Keefe was sentenced to probation, but his probation was  
20 revoked when he was convicted of a third offense of domestic battery against  
21 Whitmarsh, and he went to prison in 2006. 3/18/09 TT 139-40, 3/19/09 TT 187-88.  
22 Whitmarsh testified against O'Keefe in the domestic battery case. 3/18/09 TT 139.

23 When O'Keefe was released from prison in 2007, he met and began a  
24 relationship with Cheryl Morris. 3/17/09 TT 10, 3/19/09 TT 189. He would often speak  
25 to Morris about his previous relationship with Whitmarsh, and even expressed to her  
26 that he still had strong feelings for Whitmarsh. 3/17/09 TT 13-14, 37. Morris claimed at  
27 trial that O'Keefe said he was upset with Whitmarsh because she put him in prison and  
28 he said he wanted to "kill the bitch." 3/17/09 TT 14-17. Morris testified that O'Keefe left  
at one point to be with Whitmarsh, and then telephoned Morris, asking her to move out

1 of their jointly shared apartment so Whitmarsh could move in. 3/17/09 TT 11. Morris  
2 testified that Whitmarsh got on the phone with her during that call and told her she had  
3 decided to resume her relationship with O'Keefe. The two of them appeared to be a  
4 loving couple and were open about their relationship. 3/16/09 TT 259, 3/19/09 TT 18-  
5 21, 30-36.

6 At about 10:00 p.m. on the evening of the incident, in November 2008, a  
7 neighbor who lived in the apartment below O'Keefe and Whitmarsh heard what she  
8 described as thumping and crying noises coming from upstairs. 3/16/09 TT 185-88.  
9 The noise became so loud that it woke her husband, Charles Toliver, who was in bed  
10 next to her. Id. at 186-200. Toliver went upstairs to inquire about the noise and found  
11 the door to O'Keefe's apartment open. Id. at 206-208. He yelled inside to get the  
12 occupants' attention, at which time O'Keefe came out of the bedroom and shouted at  
13 Toliver to "come get her!" Id. at 209-10. When Toliver entered the bedroom, he saw  
14 Whitmarsh lying on the floor next to the bed and saw blood on the bed covers. Id. at  
15 210. O'Keefe was holding her and saying "baby, baby, wake up, don't do me like this."  
16 Id. at 210, 224. O'Keefe did not stop Toliver from going in the apartment or otherwise  
17 fight with him. Id. at 224. Toliver left the apartment immediately and shouted at a  
18 neighbor who was outside to call the police. Id. at 213. He also brought Todd  
19 Armbruster, another neighbor, back upstairs. Id. at 214. O'Keefe was still holding  
20 Whitmarsh and told Armbruster to get the hell out of there. Id. at 215. Armbruster  
21 called 911. Id. at 238. He thought that O'Keefe was drunk. Id. at 240, 245.

22 By this time, shortly after 11:00 p.m., police had arrived on the scene. 3/16/09  
23 TT 215, 3/17/09 TT 65. When they entered the bedroom, they found Whitmarsh lying on  
24 the floor next to the bed and an unarmed O'Keefe cradling her in his arms and stroking  
25 her head. 3/17/09 at 87, 98. The police believed Whitmarsh to be dead and ordered  
26 O'Keefe to let go of her, but he refused. Id. at 51-52, 60-61, 87. The officers  
27 eventually subdued him with a taser gun and carried him out of the bedroom. Id. 88.  
28 O'Keefe was acting agitated, id. at 73, the officers testified that he had a strong odor of  
alcohol on him, and he appeared to be extremely intoxicated. Id. at 127-28, 3/18/09 TT

170-78. Much of his speech was incoherent, but at one point he said that Whitmarsh stabbed herself and he also said that she tried to stab him. 3/17/09 TT 58, 85, 92. They arrested him and brought him to the homicide offices. 3/17/09 TT 177. Subsequent to his arrest, O'Keefe gave a rambling statement indicating he was not aware of Whitmarsh's death or its cause. 3/18/09 TT 133. Police interviewed him at 1:20 a.m., at which time he was crying, raising his voice, talking to himself, and slurring. Detective Wildemann stated that during the interview O'Keefe smelled heavily of alcohol, and when police took photographs of him at about 3:55 a.m., they had to hold him upright to steady him. 3/18/09 TT 146-49. Wildemann said it was pretty obvious that O'Keefe had been drinking, however, law enforcement did not obtain a test for his breath or blood alcohol level either before or after the interview. Id.

Whitmarsh had also been drinking on the date of the incident, and at the time of her death, her blood alcohol content was 0.24. 3/18/09 TT 94, 117. She died of one stab wound to her side and had bruising on the back of her head. Id. at 93, 103. Medical Examiner Dr. Benjamin testified that Whitmarsh's toxicology screen indicated that she was taking Effexor and that drug should not be taken with alcohol. Id. at 109. Whitmarsh had about three times the target dosage of Effexor in her system. 3/19/09 TT 94-98. The combination of Effexor and alcohol could have caused anxiety, confusion and anger. 3/19/09 TT 95-98. Whitmarsh also had Hepatitis C and advanced Cirrhosis of the liver, which is known to cause bruising with only slight pressure to the body. 3/18/09 TT 93-97. Whitmarsh's body displayed multiple bruises at the time Dr. Benjamin examined her and the bruises were different colors, but she could not say that they were associated with Whitmarsh's death or otherwise say how long ago Whitmarsh sustained the bruises. 3/18/09 TT 115. DNA belonging to O'Keefe and to Whitmarsh was found on a knife at the scene. 3/18/09 TT 62-67.

O'Keefe testified. 3/19/09 TT 177. He acknowledged his problems with alcohol and described his history with Whitmarsh. Id. at 177-93. He disputed Morris's claim that he said he wanted to kill Whitmarsh, but he acknowledged being angry with her. Id. at 190. It was Whitmarsh who called O'Keefe and initiated their renewed relationship.



1 Id. at 191. He was aware that Whitmarsh had Hepatitis C when she moved into his  
2 apartment. Id. at 197-98. In November, 2008, Whitmarsh was stressed because of her  
3 financial condition. 3/20/09 TT 17. A couple of days before the incident at issue here,  
4 Whitmarsh confronted O'Keefe with a knife. Id. at 18-19. She had been drinking and  
5 was on medication. Id. O'Keefe had not been drinking that night and was able to  
6 diffuse the situation. Id. at 19. On November 5, 2009, O'Keefe learned that he would  
7 be hired for a new job and had two glasses of wine to celebrate. Id. at 21-24. O'Keefe  
8 and Whitmarsh went to the Paris Casino where they both had drinks. Id. at 24-25.  
9 They returned home, and she was upset and went upstairs while he reclined in the  
10 passenger seat of the car for a period of time. Id. at 26-28. He went upstairs and then  
11 smoked outside on a balcony while she was in the bathroom. Id. at 29-30. He then  
12 went in the bedroom and saw Whitmarsh coming at him with a knife. Id. at 33. He  
13 swung his jacket at her and told her to get back. Id. He knew that she was mad at him  
14 about a lot of things. Id. He grabbed the knife, she yanked it and cut his hand. Id. at  
15 33. They struggled for a period of time. Id. at 33-36. During the struggle, she held the  
16 knife and fell down, he fell on top of her and then he realized that she was bleeding. Id.  
17 at 35-37. He was still drunk at this point and was trying to figure out what happened.  
18 Id. at 37. He tried to stop the bleeding and panicked. Id. at 38. He tried taking care of  
19 Whitmarsh and asked his neighbor to call someone after the neighbor came into his  
20 room. Id. at 40. He became agitated when the neighbor brought another neighbor up  
21 to look at Whitmarsh, who was partially undressed, rather than calling the paramedics.  
22 Id. at 41. O'Keefe denied hitting or slamming Whitmarsh. Id. at 42. He testified that he  
23 did not intentionally kill Whitmarsh, but felt responsible because he drank that night and  
24 he should not have done so. Id. at 48.

25 During trial, the State objected to the admission of any testimony concerning  
26 Whitmarsh's suicide attempts and to admission of documents concerning Whitmarsh's  
27 medical history. 3/19/09 TT 81. O'Keefe's counsel submitted points and authorities as  
28 to the admissibility of evidence showing that Whitmarsh had a history of suicide  
attempts by overdose and cutting herself, depression, panic disorder, anger outbursts,

1 and incidents with self-mutilation by cutting. See Defense Proposed Exhibit B (on file  
2 with this Court); 2 ROA 265. The Court found that Whitmarsh's attempted suicides  
3 were not acts of violence and found that the testimony and evidence from the medical  
4 records were not admissible. 3/20/09 TT 7-8. The Court also prohibited admission of  
5 evidence concerning her anger management classes. Id.

### 6 7 ARGUMENT

8  
9 O'Keefe has a fundamental federal and state constitutional right to present  
10 evidence in his defense pertaining to the alleged victim Whitmarsh's mental  
11 health condition and history and its manifestations through conduct, including  
12 her pattern of suicidal behavior and anger control problems, in support of his  
13 claims regarding the sequence of events and his innocent actions during the  
14 incident leading to Whitmarsh's death.

15 O'Keefe renews his request to present evidence in his defense, by way of expert  
16 testimony summarizing Whitmarsh's mental health history and condition and its  
17 manifestations through conduct, by admission of portions from medical records  
18 documenting the same,<sup>1</sup> and by way of his own testimony regarding his knowledge of  
19 Whitmarsh's mental health condition and its manifestations.

20 Having been Whitmarsh's partner on and off since 2001, O'Keefe was well aware  
21 at the time of the incident of her mental health history, which included multiple suicide  
22 attempts, both by overdose and cutting herself with knives or scissors, was aware that  
23 she self-mutilated, was aware that she had uncontrollable anger outbursts and  
24 problems when stressed over relationship issues and when abusing drugs or alcohol,  
25 and that she was attending anger management counseling.

26 This evidence supports O'Keefe's testimony regarding the events leading up to  
27 Whitmarsh's death and his innocent response to her aggression, and as such it is  
28 relevant and highly probative on the issues of whether Whitmarsh was alone in the

29 <sup>1</sup>The State has previously stipulated to the authenticity of these records, which are on  
file with the Court as Defendant's Proposed Exhibit B from the prior trial.

1 apartment and having a fit of anger when the neighbors heard banging noises (as  
2 O'Keefe contends that she must have been and which would explain the lack of fresh  
3 bruising as would be consistent with the State's prolonged-abuse theory of the case);  
4 whether she had taken the kitchen knife into the bathroom of the master bedroom when  
5 she was alone in the apartment (as O'Keefe contends she may have been preparing to  
6 harm him, self-mutilate, or commit suicide by overdose and cutting, which is consistent  
7 with the facts that she had three times her prescription dose of Effexor in her system  
8 and had an apparent injury on her hand); whether she was holding the knife when  
9 O'Keefe entered the bedroom (O'Keefe contends that she was holding the knife and  
10 surprised him); and whether she charged at O'Keefe in anger (as she has a  
11 documented history of anger control problems, which may have been exacerbated by  
12 the mixture of Effexor and alcohol in her system).

13 The evidence related to Whitmarsh's mental health history is also corroborative  
14 evidence of O'Keefe's state of mind and whether he believed Whitmarsh was going to  
15 harm him when she came at him with the knife — he knew she was unstable and  
16 dangerous when upset, especially when under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

17 The medical records from which O'Keefe seeks to admit excerpts and upon  
18 which his expert will rely show as follows:

19  
20 **October 2001 Admission to Montevista Hospital (when Whitmarsh and Brian met)**

21 Whitmarsh was admitted October 31, 2001 *after she cut both wrists*  
22 *with a knife in what she reported was her fourth suicide attempt.* She  
23 was on the medications Celexa, Xanax and Vistaril. She was diagnosed  
with Major Depressive Episode, Panic Disorder with Agoraphobia.

24 **May 2002 Admission to Montevista Hospital**

25 Whitmarsh was admitted on May 21, 2002 because she'd been using  
26 Xanax, Lortab, Oxycotin; she was blacking out and unable to function at  
27 work; withdrawal was severe; consequences of use included severe  
28 dysfunction in her relationship with husband from whom she is separated;  
psychiatric history was reported as follows: *"She has severe anxiety and  
depression; she was suicidal and hospitalized at Montevista Hospital in  
October of 2001 for an overdose and cutting her wrist. She also*

1 overdosed in 1983 and was hospitalized." Her diagnosis was opiate  
2 dependence, continuous, xanax dependence continuous, major  
3 depression, recurrent.

4 September 2006 Admission Montevista Hospital (this admission was during  
5 Brian's incarceration)

6 Whitmarsh was admitted September 26, 2006. She was diagnosed as  
7 Bipolar, Dep; Polysub dep; liver cirrhosis w/ascites; Hep C; underweight;  
8 GERD; social; marital. The Report of Dr. Allgower states "took lethal dose  
9 of Xanax requiring intubation/mechanical ventilation h/o depression, also  
10 has self-inflicted wrist lac." Form by Dr. Slagle states: "Ms Whitmarsh has  
11 made at least 3 suicide attempts. Recent attempt could have been fatal."  
12 Report by Dr. Ajayi states that Whitmarsh's suicide attempt resulted in  
13 admission to ICU. She had been transferred from St. Rose where she  
14 had been in ICU from 9/24/06 - 9/26/06, she overdosed on Xanax and  
15 friend's morphine after an argument with her estranged husband.  
16 Diagnosis at St. Rose was Bipolar Disorder type II, depressed vs recurrent  
17 major depression and borderline personality traits. She reported 2  
18 previous suicide attempts (1983 OD on pain meds after fight with  
19 husband) and (OD on pills and cutting wrists in 2001). "She has been  
20 self-mutilating for the past 15 years and stated that she cuts herself  
21 when she is angry and the last time she cut her left wrist was with a  
22 pair of scissors on September 22, 2006. She complained of irritability,  
23 mood swings, difficulty sleeping at night because of racing thoughts, poor  
24 appetite, anxiety, . . . She also reports episodic euphoria, anger outbursts  
25 and decreased need for sleep. She reports ongoing conflict with her  
26 estranged husband and her sister and her 21 year old daughter." Dr.  
27 Slagle documented poor impulse control, and that her 2001 admission to  
28 Montevista was because "she was angry, screaming and "went  
berserk" after an argument with her husband and overdosed on pills  
and cut her wrist." Drug and alcohol abuse history: She has a history of  
abusing Xanax back to at least 2001; history of dependence on Lortab,  
Percocet, and Oxycotin dating back to 2002. Inpatient Detox at  
Montevista in May 2002 followed by inpatient rehab through June 2002.  
Most recently admitted for detox from Percocet and Lortab at Valley  
Hospital in August 2006. Her diagnosis was: bipolar disorder, type II,  
depressed, benzodiazepine dependence, opiate dependence, hx of  
alcohol dependence in sustained full remission; borderline personality  
traits.... Hep C, Liver Cirrhosis.... Her treatment plan included anger  
management.

She had racing thoughts and substantial mood swings since 2000; 2 prior  
suicide attempts in the 1980s both since she married her husband; history  
of high moods and anger problems; past history of very heavy alcohol use.  
Hx of pain medication abuse.



1  
2 Chart notes further show that Whitmarsh "admits to a history of self-  
3 mutilation. Most recently, she stabbed herself on her hands, August 22,  
4 2006, "because I am not happy [with] myself."

5 And "pt denies wanting to kill self, but does state when angry she will self-  
6 mutilate and take pills to cope [with] emotional pain. Admits to "taking  
7 the pills because I was mad [with] my husband."

8 Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health October 2007 Admission (This admission  
9 was after Brian's release from incarceration but while the couple was separated)

10 Whitmarsh took an overdose of pills in an apparent suicide attempt.

11 (Emphasis added).

12 Whitmarsh's records demonstrate a pattern of self-mutilation by cutting and  
13 suicide attempts by overdosing and cutting during angry or berserk reactions to fights  
14 with her husband and when she was not even in a relationship with O'Keefe. The  
15 evidence supports O'Keefe's explanation for why it was Whitmarsh, and not he, who  
16 brought the knife into the bedroom. However, a jury deprived of this evidence, and  
17 knowing of O'Keefe's prior felony domestic battery conviction involving Whitmarsh, is  
18 likely to unfairly assume that O'Keefe retrieved the knife from the kitchen to harm  
19 Whitmarsh or that if Whitmarsh did bring the knife into the bedroom, she was doing so  
20 to protect herself.

21 O'Keefe must be allowed to present this crucial evidence, as it corroborates his  
22 claim of self-defense/accident, i.e., that Whitmarsh was out of control and he was  
23 defending himself, and during the struggle for the knife, the accident occurred leading to  
24 Whitmarsh's death. This Court has already ruled, pursuant to the State's bad acts  
25 motion, that the State may introduce evidence that O'Keefe was convicted of felony  
26 domestic battery involving Whitmarsh as relevant to his motive and intent.

27 The State also presented evidence at the previous trial to show that Whitmarsh  
28 was "very meek" and submissive. 3/17/09 TT 15, 40. The State was also quick to point  
out during the previous trial that Whitmarsh had a wound on her hand, when a defense

1 expert opined that she had no defensive wounds. 3/19/09 TT 158. O'Keefe must be  
2 allowed to rebut that evidence with evidence that Whitmarsh had a history of cutting  
3 herself and suffered from uncontrollable anger and suicidal tendencies.

4 The Fifth, Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution,  
5 as well as the Nevada Constitution, article 1, section 8, protect a criminal defendant's  
6 right to a fair trial, at which he may confront and cross-examine witnesses and present  
7 evidence in his defense. Preclusion of this evidence violates O'Keefe's rights. Pointer  
8 v. Texas, 380 U.S. 400 (1965) (recognizing that the right of confrontation requires that a  
9 criminal defendant be given an opportunity to cross-examine the witnesses against  
10 him); Chambers v. Mississippi, 410 U.S. 284, 294 (1973) (stating that "the rights to  
11 confront and cross-examine witnesses and to call witnesses in one's own behalf have  
12 long been recognized as essential to due process").

13 It is unclear in Nevada whether evidence of an alleged victim's prior mental  
14 health history including suicide attempts and anger control issues comes under the test  
15 for character evidence or whether it is simply subject to a probative-value-versus-unfair-  
16 prejudice test.

17 Other states' courts considering the admissibility of evidence pertaining to  
18 alleged victims' mental health conditions have determined that the evidence is not  
19 restricted by the rules pertaining to character evidence. Instead, the evidence is  
20 deemed to be admissible so long as relevant to a material issue. See State v. Stanley,  
21 37 P.3d 85, 90 (N.M. 2001) (collecting cases and noting that a clear majority of courts  
22 hold that evidence of suicide attempts by a victim in a homicide case is admissible to  
23 show the victim's state of mind); People v. Sakido, 248 Cal.App.2d 450, 458-60  
24 (Cal.App. 5th Dist. 1966) (same); State v. Jaeger, 973 P.2d 404, 407-08 (Utah 1999)  
25 (medical records, containing statements that the victim had previously attempted  
26 suicide, were admissible when introduced in a case where defendant claimed the victim  
27 committed suicide).

28 In Stanley, The New Mexico Supreme Court concluded that it is not appropriate  
to consider such evidence as "character evidence" subject to the rule preventing

1 evidence of a person's character or a trail of character from being admitted for the  
2 purpose of proving conformity. That court reasoned that the evidence is related to  
3 mental illness and its specific manifestations and not character. 37 P.3d at 375.  
4 Further, since the main purpose of the evidence rules is to search for the truth, a finding  
5 of relevancy and the careful application of the probative-value-versus-unfair-prejudice  
6 balancing test is sufficient to prevent the misuse of this evidence. Id. at 375-76. Where  
7 a deceased person has a pattern of suicidal or violent behavior prior to the incident  
8 leading to his death, that evidence is relevant to the alleged victim's state of mind and  
9 causation in a murder trial. 37 P.3d at 372-73. In Stanley, the court concluded that the  
10 alleged victim's pattern of suicide attempts and violent or suicidal behavior dating back  
11 to 1987, i.e., 11 years prior to the death in question, should have been admitted at trial.  
12 Id. at 374. The court determined that evidence that a deceased person suffered from  
13 mental illness and had attempted suicide in the past "is not the type of evidence that  
14 has the unusual propensity to prejudice, confuse, inflame or mislead the fact finder." Id.  
15 Finally, the court recognized that a defendant has a "fundamental right to present  
16 evidence negating the State's evidence on causation and the fact finder should [be]  
17 given the opportunity to consider such evidence and determine what weight, if any, to  
18 give to it in light of the other evidence." Id. at 374.

19 Similarly, in Salcido, the California Court of Appeals determined that hospital  
20 records showing the victim of an alleged murder had been treated for a suicide attempt  
21 are relevant to whether death was brought about by criminal agency. 248 Cal.App.2d at  
22 458. The court stated that "in a murder case it is the victim's inclination or propensity to  
23 commit suicide under emotional stress that is relevant and any competent evidence  
24 which logically and reasonably tends to show this is admissible unless objectionable  
25 under some other rule of exclusion." Id. at 459-60. The Court further recognized that  
26 even a remote suicide attempt, when considered in light of several similar attempts, has  
27 evidentiary value. Id.

28 NRS 48.015 defines "relevant evidence" as "evidence having any tendency to  
make the existence of any fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action

1 more or less probable than it would be without the evidence." Pursuant to that statute,  
2 relevant evidence is admissible, however, it may be excluded its probative value is  
3 substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice, of confusion of the issues, of  
4 misleading the jury, or by considerations of undue delay, waste of time or needless  
5 presentation of cumulative evidence. NRS 48.035. Here the evidence sought to be  
6 introduced is relevant on all of the issues set forth above, i.e., Whitmarsh's state of  
7 mind, O'Keefe's state of mind, whether there is an innocent explanation for the banging  
8 noises the neighbors heard, whether O'Keefe's claim that Whitmarsh had the knife is  
9 likely to be true, and whether O'Keefe's claim that Whitmarsh was in an uncontrolled fit  
10 of anger so that he was defending himself from her when an accident caused her death  
11 is likely to be true. Indeed, the probative value here is even greater because the jury  
12 will be aware of O'Keefe's prior conviction for felony domestic battery and will likely tend  
13 to disbelieve his claim that Whitmarsh brought the knife into the bedroom and was the  
14 aggressor. There is no unfair prejudice to the State by allowing the jury to hear this  
15 evidence and determine for itself the weight to give it.

16 On the other hand, even if the evidence in question constitutes "character  
17 evidence," it is admissible as it tends to show that Whitmarsh was the likely aggressor in  
18 the conflict leading to her death.

19 NRS 48.045(1)(b) provides that "[e]vidence of a person's character or a trait of  
20 his character is not admissible for the purpose of proving that he acted in conformity  
21 therewith on a particular occasion, except: . . . [e]vidence of the character or a trait of  
22 character of the victim of the crime offered by an accused . . . and similar evidence  
23 offered by the prosecution to rebut such evidence." Additionally, NRS 48.055(1) states,  
24 "In all cases in which evidence of character or a trait of character of a person is  
25 admissible, proof may be made by testimony as to reputation or in the form of an  
26 opinion. On cross-examination, inquiry may be made into specific instances of  
27 conduct."

28 The Nevada Supreme Court has interpreted these statutes to require that an  
accused, who claims he acted in self-defense, be permitted to present evidence of the



1 character of an alleged victim regardless of the accused's knowledge of the victim's  
2 character when it tends to prove the victim was the likely aggressor. Petty v. State, 116  
3 Nev. 321, 326-27, 997 P.2d 800, 802-03 (2000). Proof may be established by  
4 testimony as to reputation or in the form of an opinion. Id. An opinion as to violent  
5 character may even be based on knowledge of only one incident of violence. For  
6 instance, in Petty, the Court held that the district court erred by excluding testimony  
7 from a probation officer and police officer regarding their opinions as to the violent  
8 character of the victim, even though the police officer's opinion was based upon only  
9 one violent incident. Id. Based upon the foregoing authorities, Brian O'Keefe is entitled  
10 to present evidence in the form of his opinion or reputation testimony as to  
11 Whitmarsh's erratic character and problems with anger control which caused her to act  
12 irrationally and dangerously and to overdose and cut herself with knives and scissors.

13 Furthermore, at the time of the incident in question, Brian O'Keefe was aware of  
14 Whitmarsh's aggressive and erratic character and uncontrollable anger wherein she  
15 turned to pills and cutting instruments. The Nevada Supreme Court has held that if the  
16 accused, who is claiming he acted in self-defense, is aware of specific acts of violence  
17 by an alleged victim, then evidence as to those specific acts is admissible to show the  
18 accused's state of mind at the time of the alleged crime. Id. at 326-27, 997 P.2d at 803;  
19 see also Burpee v. State, 102 Nev. 43, 45-46, 714 P.2d 576, 578 (1986); Sanborn v.  
20 State, 107 Nev. 399, 812 P.2d 1279 (1991). In Daniel v. State, 119 Nev. 498, 78 P.3d  
21 890 (2003), the Nevada Supreme Court explained as follows:

22 [A] defendant should be allowed to produce supporting evidence to prove  
23 the particular acts of which the accused claims knowledge, thereby  
24 proving the reasonableness of the accused's knowledge and  
25 apprehension of the victim and the credibility of his assertions about his  
26 state of mind. . . . The self-serving nature of an accused's testimony about  
prior violent acts of the victim makes corroborating evidence of those acts  
particularly important for an accused's claim of self-defense.

27 Id. at 518, 78 P.3d at 32 (citing State v. Daniels, 465 N.W.2d 633, 636 (Wis. 1991)).

28 The admission of evidence of a victim's specific violent acts, regardless of its  
source, is within the sound and reasonable discretion of the trial court and is limited to

1 the purpose of establishing what the defendant believed about the character of the  
2 victim. Daniel, 119 Nev. at 516, 78 P.3d at 32. In sum, not only may a defendant  
3 present evidence regarding specific acts by victims where the accused is aware of such  
4 acts, but the defendant may also present corroborating evidence to prove the particular  
5 acts of which the accused claims knowledge. "[W]hen a defendant claims self-defense  
6 and knew of relevant specific acts by a victim, evidence of the acts can be presented  
7 through the defendant's own testimony, through cross-examination of a surviving victim,  
8 and through extrinsic proof." Id. at 516, 78 P.3d at 32-33. Therefore, because Brian  
9 O'Keefe was aware of Whitmarsh's prior acts of violence, including violence to herself  
10 by cutting/overdosing, and her anger control problems, he is entitled to present not only  
11 his own testimony but any additional corroborating evidence to establish those prior  
12 acts.

13 Additionally, to the extent that the State may again seek to admit evidence of  
14 Whitmarsh's character of peacefulness, as it did during the previous trial by introducing  
15 evidence that Whitmarsh was meek and submissive, O'Keefe has a right to confront  
16 and cross-examine the State's witnesses as to their knowledge of Whitmarsh's angry  
17 fits wherein she screamed, went berserk, lost control, overdosed, and used cutting  
18 instruments to do violence upon herself. See State v. Sella, 41 Nev. 113, 166 P. 278  
19 (1917); U.S. Const. Amend VI; Nev. Const. art. 1, sec. 8. Indeed, NRS 48.055(1)  
20 specifically provides that when proof by testimony as to reputation or in the form of an  
21 opinion has been given, "on cross-examination, inquiry may be made into specific  
22 instances of conduct."

### 23 24 CONCLUSION

25 Based on the foregoing, Brian O'Keefe moves this Court for a ruling permitting  
26 him to present expert testimony summarizing Whitmarsh's mental health history and  
27 condition and its manifestations, evidence from the medical record documentation  
28 discussed herein, and his own testimony showing that she had a pattern of prior suicide  
attempts through overdose of pills and cutting, and a history of anger outbursts, anger

1 management therapy, self-mutilation, and erratic behavior. All of this evidence  
2 corroborates and supports his claim that he reasonably believed Whitmarsh's state of  
3 mind was such that she attempting to cause him serious injury at the time of the  
4 incident, his claim that she was the aggressor, and his explanation of the circumstances  
5 leading to Whitmarsh's accidental death.

6 DATED this 21st day of July, 2010.

7 PALM LAW FIRM, LTD.  
8

9  
10 

11 Patricia Palm, Bar No. 6009  
12 1212 Casino Center Blvd.  
13 Las Vegas, NV 89104  
14 Phone: (702) 386-9113  
15 Fax: (702) 386-9114  
16 Attorney for Defendant O'Keefe  
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exhibit 23

CORRECT CASE NO. Q250 630

SHOWS WRONG - CASE NO. Q250360 ?

FILED JUN 15, 2012

INSTRUCTION NO.'s 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 18

BARRED INSTRUCTIONS - (GENERAL INTENT  
INSTRUCTION  
# 18)

exhibit 23

005325

ORIGINAL

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FILED IN OPEN COURT  
STEVEN D. GRIERSON  
CLERK OF THE COURT

JUN 15 2012

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

BY Carol Donahoe  
CAROL DONAHOO, DEPUTY

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Plaintiff,

-VS-

BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE

Defendant.

CASE NO: C250360

DEPT NO: XVII

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE JURY (INSTRUCTION NO. 1)

MEMBERS OF THE JURY:

It is now my duty as judge to instruct you in the law that applies to this case. It is your duty as jurors to follow these instructions and to apply the rules of law to the facts as you find them from the evidence.

You must not be concerned with the wisdom of any rule of law stated in these instructions. Regardless of any opinion you may have as to what the law ought to be, it would be a violation of your oath to base a verdict upon any other view of the law than that given in the instructions of the Court.

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UNIT  
Instructions to the Jury  
1978001



0053296



INSTRUCTION NO. 2

If, in these instructions, any rule, direction or idea is repeated or stated in different ways, no emphasis thereon is intended by me and none may be inferred by you. For that reason, you are not to single out any certain sentence or any individual point or instruction and ignore the others, but you are to consider all the instructions as a whole and regard each in the light of all the others.

The order in which the instructions are given has no significance as to their relative importance.

005327

INSTRUCTION NO. 3

An Information is but a formal method of accusing a person of a crime and is not of itself any evidence of his guilt. In this case, it is charged in an Amended Information that the Defendant committed Murder of the Second Degree on or about the 5th day of November, 2008, did then and there wilfully, feloniously, without authority of law, and with malice aforethought, kill VICTORIA WHITMARSH, a human being, by stabbing at and into the body of the said VICTORIA WHITMARSH, with a deadly weapon, to-wit: a knife.

INSTRUCTION NO. 4

Murder of the second degree is the unlawful killing of a human being, with malice aforethought, either express or implied. The unlawful killing may be effected by any of the various means by which death may be occasioned.

005379

INSTRUCTION NO. 5

Malice aforethought means the intentional doing of a wrongful act without legal cause or excuse or what the law considers adequate provocation. The condition of mind described as malice aforethought may arise, from anger, hatred, revenge or from particular ill will, spite or grudge toward the person killed. It may also arise from any unjustifiable or unlawful motive or purpose to injure another, proceeding from a heart fatally bent on mischief, or with reckless disregard of consequences and social duty. Malice aforethought does not imply deliberation or the lapse of any considerable time between the malicious intention to injure another and the actual execution of the intent but denotes an unlawful purpose and design as opposed to accident and mischance.

005330



INSTRUCTION NO. 6

Express malice is that deliberate intention unlawfully to take away the life of a human being, which is manifested by external circumstances capable of proof.

Malice may be implied when no considerable provocation appears, or when all the circumstances of the killing show an abandoned and malignant heart.

005331

INSTRUCTION NO. 7

The prosecution is not required to present direct evidence of a defendant's state of mind as it existed during the commission of a crime. The jury may infer the existence of a particular state of mind of a party or a witness from the circumstances disclosed by the evidence.

05332

1  
2 To constitute the crime charged, there must exist a union or joint operation of an act  
3 forbidden by law and an intent to do the act.

4 The intent with which an act is done is shown by the facts and circumstances  
5 surrounding the case.

6 Do not confuse intent with motive. Motive is what prompts a person to act. Intent  
7 refers only to the state of mind with which the act is done.

8 Motive is not an element of the crime charged and the State is not required to prove a  
9 motive on the part of the Defendant in order to convict. However, you may consider  
10 evidence of motive or lack of motive as a circumstance in the case.  
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exhibit 24

Correct CASE NO. C250630

C250360 wrong #

VERDICT 3RD TRIAL

FILED JUNE 15, 2012 1:58 pm.

exhibit 24

005329

ORIGINAL

FILED IN OPEN COURT  
STEVEN D. GRIERSON  
CLERK OF THE COURT

JUN 15 2012 at 1:58 PM

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

BY Carol Donahoe  
CAROL DONAHOO, DEPUTY

1 VER

2  
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4 THE STATE OF NEVADA,

5 Plaintiff,

6 -vs-

7 BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,

8 Defendant,

CASE NO: C250360

DEPT NO: XVII

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VERDICT

We, the jury in the above-entitled case, find the Defendant, BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE, as follows:

(please check the appropriate box, selecting only one)

- ☒ Guilty of Murder of the Second Degree With Use of a Deadly Weapon  
☐ Guilty of Murder of the Second Degree Without Use of a Deadly Weapon  
☐ Not Guilty

DATED this 15 day of June, 2012

[Signature]  
FOREPERSON

0053351



exhibit 25

CASE No. 0250630

PRO SE Motion to DISMISS

Collateral Estoppel - Res JUDICATA

FILED: MARCH 16, 2012

HEARD: MARCH 29, 2012

exhibit 25

Pro Se

BRIAN HERRY O'KEEFE  
#347732

CLARK COUNTY DETENTION CENTER  
330 S. CASINO CENTER BLVD.  
LAS VEGAS NEVADA 89101

FILED

MAR 16 12 04 PM '12

*[Signature]*  
CLERK OF THE COURT

IN THE  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

STATE OF NEVADA,

plaintiff,

vs.

BRIAN HERRY O'KEEFE,  
defendant.

CASE NO : CR50630

DEPT. No : XVII

DATE OF HEARING: 3-29-12

TIME OF HEARING: 8:15 a

● SEE APPENDIX (B) EXHIBITS

NOTICE OF MOTION AND

MOTION TO DISMISS BASED UPON VIOLATION(S) OF THE  
FIFTH AMENDMENT COMPONENT OF THE DOUBLE JEOPARDY  
CLAUSE, CONSTITUTIONAL COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL AND, ALTERNATIVELY,  
CLAIMING RES JUDICATA, ENFORCEABLE BY THE FOURTEENTH  
AMENDMENT UPON THE STATES PRECLUDING STATES THEORY OF  
PROSECUTION BY UNLAWFUL INTENTIONAL STABBING WITH KNIFE,  
THE ALLEGED BATTERY ACT DESCRIBED IN THE AMENDED INFORMATION.

COMES NOW the defendant BRIAN HERRY O'KEEFE, who hereby moves this  
Honorable court for an ORDER of dismissal with prejudice on the grounds that two  
5th Amendment violations have already occurred and commencement of a third trial  
will further violate the Doctrine of the Law of the case of the First appeal with  
Constitutional collateral estoppel "barring" prosecutions theory of unlawful intentional  
stabbing with knife. The Fifth Amendment guarantees against double jeopardy  
is enforceable against the states through the Fourteenth Amendment due  
process with equal protection. The State now lacks theory and evidence to SUPPORT  
the AMENDED INFORMATION charging Second Degree malice murder; conclusively.

005337

1 IN accordance with HANES v. KEARNEY, 404 U.S. 519, 92 S.Ct. 599, defendant  
2 humbly requests liberal reading be afforded and less stringent standards be  
3 applied to defendant's MOTION TO DISMISS.

4 This MOTION is made and based upon the Following Points and Authorities,  
5 all papers and documents on file in the record, Appendices of exhibits  
6 attached, and any argument as will be had at the time of hearing.  
7

8 Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2012

9  
10 • MOTION with  
11 APPENDIX of EXHIBITS  
(1-18) EXHIBITS - (178 pg.)

Brian O'Keefe  
BRIAN O'KEEFE  
C.C.D.C. - #1447732  
IN PROSE

12 NOTICE OF MOTION

13  
14 TO: STATE of Nevada, Plaintiff, and

15 TO: STEVE Wolfson, District Attorney, Attorney for Plaintiff.  
16

17 You will please take NOTICE that the undersigned will bring on  
18 the above and attached MOTION on the 29 day of March, 2012,  
19 at the hour of 8:15 a.m., in Department XVII of the above  
20 entitled court, or as soon thereafter as defendant may be heard.  
21

22 DATED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH 2012.

23 By: Brian O'Keefe  
24 BRIAN O'KEEFE  
25 C.C.D.C. - #1447732  
PRO SE

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

II. PREDOMINATE OVERVIEW

III. DOUBLE JEOPARDY Collateral Estoppel OPERATIVE FACTS, 54 Violations

IV. AUTHORITIES - ARGUMENT

V. CONCLUSION

2 3 4

## I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The state wrongfully charged Defendant Brian Henry O'KEEFE with murder with use of a deadly weapon for the alleged November 5, 2008 killing of Victoria Whitman. On January 20, 2009 he entered a plea of not guilty and invoked his constitutional and statutory rights to a speedy trial. • On February 2, 2009, State files Motion to admit evidence of other crimes, hearing set February 10, 2009. On February 10, 2009, state files in OPEN COURT their Amended Information also. (Prior to the hearing) At the conclusion, Court sets a petrocelli hearing. This hearing is continued several times finally being conducted immediately preceding trial held March 16, 2009. The Court ruled State could enter O'Keefe's FELONY battery domestic violence case, C207825, in their case in chief through their WITNESSES.

The case was tried ending after five days. On March 20, 2009 the jury found O'Keefe guilty of Second Degree murder with the use of a deadly weapon.

• On April 7, 2009, defense Motion to settle the record was heard concerning INSTRUCTION No. 18 on defining and proving Second Degree MURDER. The Court and State make as a matter of the record, the definition is statutorily correct.

EMPHASIS also made on the judicial admission made by State and Court that jury and all believed O'Keefe was so intoxicated to form, "INTENT," therefore acquitting O'Keefe of INTENTIONALLY STABBING WITH KNIFE.

• On May 5, 2009 this Court sentences O'Keefe to 10-25 years for second and 8-20 years for the weapon enhancement. O'Keefe timely appeals. The Court reversed O'Keefe's conviction "DECIDING" ISSUE #2 on direct appeal.

The Nevada Supreme Court explained, (ORDER OF REVERSAL AND REMAND)  
"the State's charging document did not allege that O'Keefe killed the victim while he was committing an UNLAWFUL ACT and the evidence presented at trial did not support this theory of Second Degree Murder."

• see O'KEEFE v. STATE N.S.C. DOCKET NO. 53859 (APR 7, 2010)

On June 10, 2010, remand, Scheduled retrial for August 23, 2010. On August 19, 2010, State files a second amended information in OPEN COURT, C250630.

The state's prosecution theory again is unlawful intentional stabbing with knife. Second trial commences with state rehearsing exact same evidence used in first trial. Trial ending with a hung jury. Court declares mistrial on September 2, 2010. Defendant now truly indigent. Case status checked until September 16, 2010 for defense attorney to be appointed after approval. Same counsel appointed September 16, 2010 preserving defendant's speedy trial rights.

Third trial calendar call set for January 18, 2011, trial set January 24, 2011.

Now, CONTRARY to the Doctrine of the Law of the case, particularly issue preclusion, and the trial court's late prior ruling on August 23, 2010, being that the State was barred from discussing battered woman's syndrome, the State ignores and files a supplemental notice of expert witnesses for the calling of Andrea Sundberg as an expert in BWS in its case in chief.

Also, on January 6, 2011 the State filed a Motion in Limine to Admit Evidence of Other Bad Acts. HIGHLIGHTS ON STATE'S MOTION

[1] STATE REHASHING SAME EVIDENCE BROUGHT IN FIRST PETROCELLI HEARING

[2] ALL ACTS ARE MISDEMEANORS (CONVICTIONS - dismissed cases) N.R.S. 20.095?

[3] MOTION IN LIMINE SCHEDULED FOR AFTER ORIGINAL CALENDAR CALL, LATE.

[4] Violation of the LAW of the CASE, CONSTITUTIONAL COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL.

State's Motion was docketed for January 20, 2011. CK was 1-18-2011.



1 ● On January 7, 2011, O'Keefe's attorney filed a Motion to Dismiss on Grounds of  
2 Double Jeopardy Bar, BASED ON WRONG OPERATIVE FACTS, a "RED HEARING",  
3 and Speedy Trial Violation and, Alternatively, to preclude State's new expert  
4 witness, evidence and argument relating to the dynamics of effects of domestic  
5 violence and abuse ● On January 14, 2011 State filed a supplemental notice  
6 of witnesses. At calendar call, January 18, 2011, the defense stated that  
7 it could not announce ready attributable to the State. This was based  
8 on state's actual Late Notice on hearing their Motion. Basically,  
9 this second bad acts hearing is the rehearsing of the exact same crimes  
10 litigated 2 years prior on February 10, March 16, of 2009. However, the  
11 Court wanted to know if the defense was ready to proceed remembering  
12 that this is still January 18, 2011 and the State's Motion is scheduled  
13 for January 20, 2011. Ultimately, Court continues calendar call to  
14 January 20, 2011 for all untimely Motions. Court denies O'Keefe's  
15 Dbl. Jep. Motion but grants State a second petrocelli hearing and  
16 vacates O'Keefe's trial date. Third new trial date set June 6, 2011.

17 Sets second petrocelli hearing, on same misdemeanors, for APRIL 7, 2011, then  
18 continued hearing to APRIL 12, 2011. Simultaneously on APRIL 8, 2011,

19 O'Keefe's attorney files Writ in N.S.C., docket no. 58109. On APRIL 12,  
20 2011 petrocelli hearing again continued to APRIL 27, 2011. With Writ  
21 pending, the trial court finally conducts the second petrocelli hearing.

22 At the conclusion of the hearing the court decides to set a two  
23 week status check for his final decision. May 11, 2011 set for ruling.

24 ● On APRIL 29, 2011 O'Keefe's attorney files Motion to withdraw, set  
25 for MAY 12, 2011. Coincidentally, on MAY 10, 2011 the N.S.C. denies  
O'Keefe's Writ, based on prosecutorial misconduct as the operative fact.

1 ● On May 11, 2011, which was docketed for the judge's final ruling pertaining  
2 to the State's motion in LIMINE, counsel for the defense advances her  
3 Motion to withdraw one day. Motion granted. Final ruling continued until  
4 September 23, 2011. Trial date vacated with new counsel being appointed. On  
5 July 21, 2011 new THIRD TRIAL date set. C/L June 5, 2012. Trial June 11, 2012.

6 ● On September 23, 2011 ruling on misdemeanors continued several times ultimately  
7 to February 17, 2012. Defense Motion heard on November 8, 2011 by substitute  
8 Judge Brennan. Order signed returning O'Keefe's sentencing fees that were  
9 deducted while O'Keefe was in prison before the REVERSAL. Mr. Calli, for the  
10 state present, no objection. ● On December 16, 2011, defendant's PRO SE motion  
11 granted. Defense counsel goes stand by made. Parties reminded the final  
12 hearing, ruling on misdemeanors set for February 17, 2012. O'Keefe orally  
13 requests to file his own opposition. Court Denies. On December 20, 2011,  
14 O'Keefe mails for pretrial Federal habeas relief in the U.S. District Court.

15 U.S. District Judge NAVARRO responds admitting there are double  
16 jeopardy implications. Gives positive direction but dismisses O'Keefe's  
17 section 2241 without prejudice. O'Keefe appeals to the NINTH  
18 CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS. CASE PENDING. Auditing decision if CoA  
19 for single issue advanced, by AMENDED PETITION, will be issued.


20 ● On February 17, 2012, State's Motion in Limine filed (13)  
21 months prior is finally completed. Judge temporarily defers decision  
22 but on March 13 2012, enters judgment allowing the same felony C207835.

23 Defendant files Motion why CoA should be granted March 6, 2012  
24 with the NINTH CIRCUIT. O'Keefe notifies all parties. In  
25 addition, O'Keefe directly attacks the trial court with this  
Motion, on the Collateral Estoppel claims and prior law of the Case  
of the First appeal. Res Judicata. [Motion for CoA request mailed to Judge.]

## II. PREDOMINATE OVERVIEW

Defendant contends this argument holds extreme MERIT. After the first trial, anyone applying honest, intelligent and logical thought concerning the following facts, would realize the first trial rulings and decisions, made by the Court, ultimately effected the jury returning a guilty verdict of second degree malice murder w.d.w.

Pointing out several rulings were so questionable that anybody reviewing would have severe questions as to the WHY? These rulings definitely became violations of ones due process to a "complete defense".

 The denial alone of allowing "no evidence" on Whitmarsh's mental health, suicides, cutting and self mutilations, anger management classes and therapy was more than questionable. THE FIRST JURY HEARD NOTHING RETURNING A MUCH (HIGHER) VERDICT. The denial of the defense motion to suppress O'Keefe's voluntary rambling, when the police even admit O'Keefe was acting like a NUT, INCOHERENT, and extremely INTOXICATED.

The denial of precluding the State to start at first degree murder based on the State destroying O'Keefe's blood-breath drawel.

Police committing PERJURY concerning the existence of the use of force from on a "specific discovery" request.

The State Unnecessarily bringing in Racial slurs. Not taking photos of all cut fingers O'Keefe had.

The scales were tipped heavily. It only makes manifest the backing of ROGUE cops who decided this case by O'Keefe's criminal scope unaware that Whitmarsh was Bi-POLAR, depressed, and in a overmedicated drunken rage in an extreme FIT OF ANGER.  
(God Bless HER SOUL!)

### III. DOUBLE JEOPARDY COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL OPERATIVE FACTS, 5<sup>th</sup> VIOLATIONS

- 2. - PROSECUTIONS THEORY - UNLAWFUL INTENTIONAL STABBING WITH KNIFE
- b. - ISSUE, #2 - DECIDED ON DIRECT APPEAL IN FAVOR OF DEFENDANT
- c. - TWO UNTRUTHS - STATES WITNESSES; CHERYL MORRIS AND DETECTIVE WILDEMAN
- d. - Rehashing Evidence - State held two Petrocelli hearings on MISDEMEANORS  
INFORMATION  
OPENING STATEMENT FIRST TRIAL CLOSING ARGUMENT

2. On November 5, 2008, O'Keefe is wrongfully charged with Battery/Domestic Violence and murder with a deadly weapon. (see BATTERY/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, MURDER COMPLAINTS EXHIBIT 1)  
On December 19, 2008 state electronically filed information. (INFORMATION - C250630 EXHIBIT 2)  
On February 10, 2009 state files Amended Information, OpenCourt. (AMENDED INFORMATION EXHIBIT 3)

The state now makes manifest their theory of prosecution. The alleged battery act has been merged into the Amended Information. The same single alleged act is now described in the Amended Information as the "UNLAWFUL INTENTIONAL STABBING WITH KNIFE"

● On Monday, MARCH 16, 2009, opening statement by STATE declaring their THEORY.  
(Monday, MARCH 16, 2009 RAUCH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT JURY TRIAL DAY 1 EXHIBIT 4)

● FOR STATE LEAD, MR. SMITH OPENING STATEMENT TRIAL # 1

... the evidence is going to show you that the defendant, in fact, stabbed Victoria ...  
... we have to prove the death of Mrs. Whitmarsh was UNLAWFUL ...  
... we are going to prove that the death in this case was nothing less than an  
INTENTIONAL ACT committed by the defendant against Mrs. Whitmarsh ...  
... the defendant had a motive and underlying ill will towards Mrs. Whitmarsh which  
we submit is going to help us meet our burden of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that  
this was an INTENTIONAL ACT. (id at PAGE 171, LINES 4-22 EXHIBIT 4)

So the state claims conclusively that O'Keefe had a motive and that he unlawfully, intentionally stabbed Mrs. Whitmarsh with a knife.

Now, we'll jump to closing key statements by the State. Then I will outline second trial opening and closing by the State for double jeopardy



• FOR STATE SECOND CHAIR, MS. GRAHAM CLOSING ARGUMENT TRIAL # 1

● On Friday, March 20, 2009 the State argues what they feel they proved.

(FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT JURY TRIAL DAY 5 EXHIBIT 5)

... The State's position is that this is First degree murder with a deadly weapon...

(id at RDT Page 130, lines 22-23) ... But what is malice aforethought?

INTENTIONAL KILLING... OKAY, so it's INTENTIONAL. An INTENTIONAL KILLING without legal cause or excuse... (id at RDT Page 134, lines 22-25)...

What is second degree murder? The killing... Just INTENTIONAL.

(id at RDT Page 137, lines 6-7) ... What is willfulness? The intent to kill. The intent to kill — you intend it, kill. That's willful...

(id at RDT Page 135, lines 21-25) ... Our contention is that a Knife was the deadly weapon... (id at RDT Page 138, lines 11-12) ... this is how we know it's First degree murder. It wasn't an accident. It was WILLFUL... It was willful. THE ACT OF STABBING VICTORIA WAS WILLFUL...

(id at RDT Page 139, lines 15-25) Now, a "Key" STATEMENT was made.

✶ : This is much more than SECOND DEGREE MURDER. SECOND DEGREE WOULD ONLY APPLY if defendant ACTED INTENTIONALLY...

(id at RDT Page 145, lines 16-18)

• FOR STATE LEAD, MR. SMITH CLOSING ARGUMENT TRIAL # 1

TS/O : ... That's certainly circumstantial evidence of a BATTERY or something that precipitated the STABBING.

(id at RDT Page 177, lines 1-2)

... The Law says you determine a persons INTENT at the moment they COMMIT the ACT... a lot of times people are sorry that they kill somebody after it's happened and/or before they get caught. But it doesn't mean — it doesn't MAKE THE UNDERLYING ACT ANY LESS CRIMINAL...

(id at RDT Page 178, lines 16-21) The Alleged MERGED BATTERY ACT.



III.

OPENING STATEMENT

SECOND AMENDED INFORMATION  
**SECOND TRIAL**

CLOSING ARGUMENT

**2.** August 19, 2010, in OPEN COURT, State Files their Second AMENDED INFORMATION.

Again the State charges not only the SAME OFFENSE, but the same prosecution theory of the INTENTIONAL, UNLAWFUL, STABBING with a KNIFE. (SECOND AMENDED INFORMATION, C230620 EXHIBIT 6)

● On Wednesday, August 25, 2010 Opening Statement made by State on day 3.

(ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT JURY TRIAL DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2010 EXHIBIT 7)

● FOR STATE LEAD, MR. LELLI: OPENING STATEMENT TRIAL # 2.


... BRIAN O'KEEFE was found guilty by a jury of felony battery constituting domestic violence in 2008. The victim in that case, Victoria Whitmarsh is the same woman he murdered on November 6th, 2008. The evidence will show that he STABBED her, that she suffered a fatal stab wound under her arm and that she died as a result of essentially bleeding out.

... Like most domestic violence relationships, there was a fatal attraction between the two.

(id at Page 23, lines 14-16 2nd id at Page 24, lines 16-18)

... The knife that was used to stab Victoria is located and impounded...

(id at Page 29, lines 20-22)

: ... An anonymous domestic violence survivor once made this observation.

If you can't be thankful for what you have, be thankful for what you have escaped.

Well, unfortunately Victoria was not able to escape from the defendant, and he murdered her in a brutal way. (id at Pages 31-32, lines 24-25, lines 1-5)

● On Tuesday, August 31, 2010 CLOSING ARGUMENT made by State.

(ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT JURY TRIAL DAY 7 TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2010 EXHIBIT 8)

● FOR STATE SECOND CHAIR, MS. GRAHAM CLOSING ARGUMENT TRIAL # 2.

... I hate her and I want to kill her. She took three years of my life.

(id at Page 81, lines 24-25) ... She sent me to prison. That's what the defendant said about Victoria Whitmarsh. He killed her on the night of November 6th, 2008. He did it INTENTIONALLY and he had a MOTIVE.


(id at Page 82, lines 1-3)


1 ... I think you've heard statements and some evidence throughout these past few days  
2 that perhaps Victoria attacked him, that Victoria cut him.

3 (id at Page 84, lines 11-13)

4 ... And malice a forethought can be either expressed or implied malice. The unlawful  
5 killing may be effective by any of the various means by which (indiscernible)  
6 in this case a STABBING. Malice a forethought means the INTENTIONAL doing  
7 of a wrongful act ... (id at Page 87, lines 19-23)

8 ... malice requires the INTENTIONAL ACT, INTENTIONAL UNLAWFUL ACT,  
9 THE STABBING ... (id at Page 91, lines 16-18)

10 : ... To CONSTITUTE the crime CHARGED in this case it's  
11 SECOND DEGREE MURDER, there must exist a joint --  
12 a union or joint operation of AN ACT that is Forbidden by LAW and  
13 INTENT to do that ACT. In summary that means Forbidden by  
14 Law, a murder, a stabbing, and the INTENT to do the ACT. The  
15 INTENTIONAL STABBING into Victoria's body. The intent  
16 with which an ACT is DONE ... (id at Pages 91, line 25; 92, lines 1-5)

17 ●  At this point it is crystal clear that the State has not  
18 only charged, in the AMENDED INFORMATION, an unlawful intentional stabbing  
19 with knife, this theory was argued by state and proven by trial transcripts.  
20 At first glance of O'Hee's 8 2241, U.S. DISTRICT Judge GLORIA NIWARRO  
21 already admits in her ORDER that the COLLATERAL ESTOPPEL claim  
22 absolutely would appear to be based UPON DOUBLE JEOPARDY PROTECTIONS.

23 The U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE was more concerned with why this  
24 wasn't exhausted in STATE COURT first. It certainly will  
25 be now and is just one of the reasons this case is conclusively, OVER.  
Now on to B. Authorities and ARGUMENT, INFRA.

III.

b.

ISSUE #2 - DECIDED ON DIRECT APPEAL IN FAVOR OF DEFENDANT

Before the case was reversed on appeal defendant's Motion to Settle Record was heard on April 7, 2009. Critical statements are made during this hearing.

(TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2009 ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT, MOTION TO SETTLE RECORD EXHIBIT 9)  
STATE, MR. SMITH and the Court both admit INSTRUCTION #18 is statutory correct in language. (id at Page 3, lines 1-24)

Also, State admits O'Keefe was to drink to form "INTENT", by JURY DECISIONAL. (id at Page 5, lines 18-22)

Over: The Court himself places on record the fact the alcohol issue caused the Jury to convict O'Keefe of INTENTIONAL MURDER (id at Page 6, lines 4-9)

"DECIDED" ON direct appeal, the argument arises from in fact INSTRUCTION #18. Defendant enters these 3 key instructions.

These 3 instructions are #1, #3, AND #18, defining Second degree Murder. (see INSTRUCTIONS TO THE JURY FILED IN OPEN COURT MARCH 29, 2009 EXHIBIT 10)

Now to bolster my point defendant enters his REVERSAL ORDER. (see ORDER OF REVERSAL AND REMAND N.S.C. No. 53899 APRIL 7, 2009 EXHIBIT 11)

- N.R.S. 200.030 "MURDER" defined: Murder is the unlawful killing of a human being: 1.) with malice aforethought, either express or IMPLIED.

So the alleged single battery act is merged into the murder charge. Instruction #1 identifies case, scenario. Instruction #3 explains the state theory and describes the battery act merged. We also must keep in mind that N.R.S. 200.481 defines "battery" - (MEANS any intentional/unlawful act of force upon the person of another.) IN CASE C250630, the ACT is described in INSTRUCTION #3 as the, INTENTIONAL, UNLAWFUL STABBING VICTORIA with knife.

The Jury, as the trier of fact, ACQUITS O'Keefe of FIRST-DEGREE murder, the INTENTIONAL STABBING with knife. However they return

1 a verdict of Second Degree murder implied, by the argued battery domestic  
2 violence is closing. Somehow, the jury is completely lost. When the  
3 jury acquitted the defendant of First degree murder, the ACT they  
4 acquitted me of APPLIED to either First or Second degree murder.

5 There was no other enumerated felony or inherently dangerous act  
6 committed by the defendant. ~~Now~~: Closing in on INSTRUCTION # 18 now.

7 The Nevada Supreme Court REVERSAL ORDER READS;

8 Here, the district court abused his discretion when he instructed the jury  
9 that second-degree murder includes involuntary killings that occur in the commission  
10 of an UNLAWFUL ACT because the state's charging document did not allege O'Kane  
11 killed the victim while he was committing an unlawful act and the evidence  
12 presented at trial did not support this theory of SECOND-DEGREE MURDER.

13 • First, the state didn't have to allege any underlying act once they used  
14 malice aforethought. Second, if the state would have alleged a battery  
15 it wouldn't matter because the evidence presented at trial did not  
16 SUPPORT THIS THEORY of SECOND DEGREE MURDER. What theory?

17 INSTRUCTION # 18 MURDER of the Second Degree is murder which is:

- 18 1) An unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought, but without  
19 deliberation and premeditation, or  
20 2) Where an involuntary killing occurs in the commission of an unlawful act, the  
21 natural consequences of which are dangerous to life, which act is intentionally  
22 performed by a person who knows that his conduct endangers the life of  
23 another, even though the person has not specifically formed an intention to kill

24 • NOTING, theory #2 was the theory complained about and decided.

25 Theory one is nothing more than Second degree murder DEFINED.

Theory two is implied malice murder by the act. It is how you PROVE  
theory one. Mainly it is EXACTLY EQUAL in criminal culpability.  
Also, felony murder has no "intent." - 13 -



1 showing that Whitmarsh had a history of suicide attempts, depression, panic disorder and  
2 incidents with cutting herself with knives. 2 App. 265, 313. The relevant documents were  
3 included in Defense Proposed Exhibit B. 2 App. 265. The State argued that evidence of  
4 Whitmarsh's suicide attempts was not relevant because it did not constitute a violent act. 2  
5 App. 266. The Court found that her attempted suicides were not acts of violence and found  
6 that the testimony and evidence from the medical records was not admissible. 2 App. 266.  
7 The district court also prohibited admission of evidence concerning her anger management  
8 classes. 2 App. 266.

9 O'Keefe wished to testify that as Whitmarsh's partner on and off since 2001, he was  
10 aware at the time of the incident of her mental health history, which included multiple suicide  
11 attempts, both by overdose and cutting herself with knives or scissors, was aware that she  
12 self-mutilated, was aware that she had uncontrollable anger outbursts, and problems when  
13 stressed and when abusing drugs or alcohol, and that she was attending anger management  
14 counseling. 2 App. 256, 260. In addition, two nights before the incident, Whitmarsh  
15 confronted O'Keefe when he was reclining. She was yelling and brandishing a knife at him;  
16 however, as he was sober at the time, he was able to calm her down and diffuse the situation.  
17 2 App. 269.

18 O'Keefe provided the State with Whitmarsh's medical records and sought admission  
19 of these records at trial as they would have corroborated his claims as to her aggression and  
20 anger problems and her anger management treatment. 2 App. 265; Exhibit B. Those records  
21 include an October 2001 Admission to Montevista Hospital, after she cut both wrists with  
22 a knife in what she reported was her fourth suicide attempt. She was on the medications  
23 Celexa, Xanax and Vistaril. She was diagnosed with Major Depressive Episode, Panic  
24 Disorder with Agoraphobia. It was during this hospitalization that she and O'Keefe met.  
25 Next, a May 2002 Admission to Montevista Hospital after she used Xanax, Lortab, Oxycotin;  
26 was blacking out and unable to function at work. Her withdrawal was severe. Those  
27 documents noted a psychiatric history of severe anxiety and depression; a hospitalization in  
28 October 2001 for OD and cutting her wrist; a hospitalization for an overdosed in 1983 and



1 a diagnosis of opiate dependence, continuous, xanax dependence continuous, and major  
2 depression recurrent. Next she was admitted in September 2006 to Montelisa Hospital for  
3 a variety of issues, including bipolar disorder and depression. The report noted that she had  
4 taken lethal dose of Xanax requiring intubation/mechanical ventilation h/o depression, also  
5 has self-inflicted wrist lac." The report noted at least 3 suicide attempts and that she has been  
6 self-mutilating for the past 15 years. she stated that she cuts herself when she is angry and  
7 the last time she cut her left wrist was with a pair of scissors on September 22, 2006. Her  
8 treatment included anger management. A Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health October  
9 2007 admission showed that in October, Victoria took an overdose of pills in an apparent  
10 suicide attempt. Exhibit B.

11 O'Keefe sought to admit portions of the records from the 2001, 2002, and 2006  
12 hospitalizations as corroborative evidence of his knowledge about Whitmarsh's and his state  
13 of mind regarding whether she was mentally capable and likely to cause him great bodily  
14 harm when she came at him with a knife. 2 App. 265. Additionally, he was aware of and  
15 had the opinion that Whitmarsh could be irrational and had a temper problem that caused her  
16 to be aggressive and violent, especially when she was under the influence of alcohol or drugs.  
17 The district court, despite full briefing on the issue by O'Keefe, precluded admission of the  
18 evidence. 2 App. 266.

19 The Fifth, Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, as  
20 well as the Nevada Constitution, article I, section 8, protect a criminal defendant's right to  
21 a fair trial, at which he may confront and cross-examine witnesses and present evidence in  
22 his defense. Preclusion of this evidence violated O'Keefe's rights. Pointer v. Texas, 380  
23 U.S. 400 (1965) (recognizing that the right of confrontation requires that a criminal  
24 defendant be given an opportunity to cross-examine the witnesses against him); Chambers  
25 v. Mississippi, 410 U.S. 284, 294 (1973) (stating that "the rights to confront and cross-  
26 examine witnesses and to call witnesses in one's own behalf have long been recognized as  
27 essential to due process"). Preclusion of this evidence also violated O'Keefe's statutory  
28 rights. NRS 48.045(1)(b); NRS 48.055(1). This Court has interpreted these statutes to

1 and the character of the accused, who may be acted in self-defense, for testimony to represent evidence  
2 of the character of an alleged victim regardless of the accused's knowledge of the victim's  
3 character when it tends to prove the victim was the likely aggressor. Petty v. State, 116 Nev.  
4 321, 326-27, 997 P.2d 800, 802-03 (2000). Attempts to commit suicide, especially when  
5 those attempts are made with knives or other cutting instruments, and acts of self-mutilation  
6 with cutting instruments constitute acts of aggression or violence. Such evidence is relevant  
7 under the circumstances presented here. State v. Stanley, 37 P.3d 85, 90 (N.M. 2001)  
8 (collecting cases and noting that a clear majority of courts hold that evidence of suicide  
9 attempts by a victim in a homicide case is admissible); People v. Salcido, 246 Cal.App.2d  
10 450, 458-60 (Cal.App. 5th Dist. 1966) (same); State v. Jaeger, 973 P.2d 404, 407-08 (Utah  
11 1999) (medical records, containing statements that the victim had previously attempted  
12 suicide, were admissible when introduced in a case where defendant claimed the victim  
13 committed suicide).

14 Further, at the time of the incident, O'Keefe was aware of Whitmarsh's prior acts of  
15 violence and aggressive character. This Court has held that if the accused, who is claiming  
16 he acted in self-defense, is aware of specific acts of violence by an alleged victim, then  
17 evidence as to those specific acts is admissible to show the accused's state of mind at the  
18 time of the alleged crime. Id. at 326-27, 997 P.2d at 803; Daniel v. State, 119 Nev. 498, 78  
19 P.3d 890 (2003) ("[A] defendant should be allowed to produce supporting evidence to prove  
20 the particular acts of which the accused claims knowledge, thereby proving the  
21 reasonableness of the accused's knowledge and apprehension of the victim and the credibility  
22 of his assertions about his state of mind. . . . The self-serving nature of an accused's  
23 testimony about prior violent acts of the victim makes corroborating evidence of those acts  
24 particularly important for an accused's claim of self-defense."). "[W]hen a defendant claims  
25 self-defense and knew of relevant specific acts by a victim, evidence of the acts can be  
26 presented through the defendant's own testimony, through cross-examination of a surviving  
27 victim, and through extrinsic proof." Id. at 516, 78 P.3d at 32-33. O'Keefe was entitled to  
28 present this evidence. He is entitled to a new trial based upon the district court's order

1 prohibiting his counsel from presenting this evidence.

2       B. The district court erred, and denied O'Keefe his state and federal constitutional  
3 rights to due process and a fair trial, by refusing to strike an erroneous jury instruction and  
4 instead directing the State not to rely upon the erroneous instruction in its closing argument.  
5 The parties settled jury instructions in chambers. At that time, O'Keefe's counsel objected  
6 to the State's proposed instruction defining second degree murder, citing Jennings v. State,  
7 116 Nev. 488, 998 P.2d 557 (2000), and argued they had no notice of a second degree felony  
8 murder theory and the second paragraph of the State's instruction set forth a felony murder  
9 theory. 2 App. 384. The district court determined that the State's proposed instruction  
10 defining second degree felony murder in paragraph #2 would not be given because no such  
11 theory had been alleged in the Information. 2 App. 384, 388. After the parties returned,  
12 made a record of objections, the district court passed out the final instructions just before  
13 instructing the jury. 2 App. 296, 384. The reading of the jury instructions was not  
14 transcribed, but the record reflects that a bench conference was held during the reading of  
15 the instructions. 2 App. 296-97. When the district court got to the instruction (#18) defining  
16 "Murder of the Second Degree", the parties approached the bench, and the district court  
17 noted that it understood the jury was not going to be instructed on second degree felony  
18 murder. 2 App. 384. O'Keefe's counsel agreed with this understanding, and stated that the  
19 instruction should not be given with the second paragraph. 2 App. 384. The State argued  
20 that they simply would not argue the theory to the jury. 2 App. 384. O'Keefe's counsel  
21 argued that this solution was not satisfactory because the jury might still understand that they  
22 could find the theory from the district court's instruction. 2 App. 384. The district court  
23 overruled O'Keefe's objection and gave the instruction which it knew to be erroneous. 2  
24 App. 384, 388. The jury was instructed in the second paragraph of Instruction #18 that  
25 "[W]here an involuntary killing occurs in the commission of an unlawful act, the natural  
26 consequences of which are dangerous to life, which act is intentionally performed by a  
27 person who knows that his conduct endangers the life of another, even though the person has  
28 not specifically formed an intention to kill." 2 App. 354.

1 During closing arguments, the prosecutor argued that a finding of murder could be  
2 based upon implied malice. 2 App. 208-209. O'Keefe's counsel objected to this argument  
3 and a conference was held at the bench, but it was not recorded. 2 App. 299. The jury was  
4 not instructed to disregard this argument and was not instructed that the second paragraph  
5 of Instruction #18 could not be used as a basis for a conviction.

6 O'Keefe's state and federal constitutional rights to a fair trial, proper jury instructions,  
7 and notice of the charges against him were violated by the district court's actions. It is  
8 entirely unprecedented for a district court to give a jury instruction, despite a previous order  
9 that the instruction would not be given, with full knowledge that the jury instruction was  
10 unsupported by authority from this Court. Likewise, there is no precedent holding that such  
11 an instruction may be given so long as the prosecutor does not argue the erroneous and  
12 unconstitutional theory to the jury. There is no valid question as to the fact that this jury  
13 instruction was improper. The State failed to charge O'Keefe with felony-murder and he was  
14 given no notice of the State's intent to prosecute him under a felony-murder theory. A  
15 defendant has a fundamental right to be clearly informed of the nature and cause of the  
16 charges in order to adequately prepare his defense. Jennings, 116 Nev. at 491, 998 P.2d at  
17 559 (citing Sheppard v. Rees, 909 F.2d 1234, 1236 (9th Cir. 1989), Cole v. Arkansas, 333  
18 U.S. 196 (1948)). See also Alford v. State, 111 Nev. 1409, 1415, 906 P.2d 714, 717 (1995).  
19 Despite the fact that the State did not charge O'Keefe under a second-degree felony murder  
20 theory, the jury was instructed on this theory of prosecution and under the facts presented  
21 here, the jury may have very well relied upon this instruction in reaching its verdict. Reversal  
22 of the judgment is therefore required. Cortinas v. State, 195 P.3d 315, 320-21 (Nev. 2008).

23 C. The district court erred, and denied O'Keefe his state and federal constitutional  
24 rights to due process and a fair trial, by allowing a transportation officer, Officer Hutcherson,  
25 to testify that O'Keefe told him to "turn that nigger music off" and said "I don't listen to  
26 nigger music." 1 App. 135. This testimony was sprung upon the defendant during trial  
27 without any prior notice. O'Keefe's counsel asked to approach the bench and an unrecorded  
28 bench conference took place. 1 App. 135. The officer did not write a report about this



1 matter, did not give a recorded statement, and did not state that this happened in his  
2 handwritten note. 1 App. 136. Although the State was aware of these alleged statements  
3 O'Keefe's counsel were not given notice of this highly prejudicial statement. The State did  
4 not request a Petrocelli hearing to establish the admissibility of this highly inflammatory and  
5 irrelevant evidence. 1 App. 153, 159. The State argued that no discovery violation occurred  
6 because the statement was not memorialized and it was not exculpatory. 1 App. 153. The  
7 district court ruled that there was no discovery violation and found that O'Keefe was not  
8 prejudiced by the testimony. 1 App. 154. O'Keefe's counsel noted that some jurors reacted  
9 strongly to the testimony. 1 App. 159. Counsel further noted that the testimony was  
10 especially prejudicial as the police officer and one of the prosecutors, and at least one juror,  
11 were African-American and testimony concerning the racial slur was likely to cause the  
12 jurors to more closely align themselves with the State because of empathy to the officer or  
13 prosecutor or because of anger toward O'Keefe. 1 App. 159. Additional prejudice was  
14 present as O'Keefe and Whitmarsh were of different races. Counsel requested a mistrial  
15 based upon the State's intentional non-disclosure of the evidence, the highly prejudicial  
16 testimony, and the inability to conduct voir dire on racial bias which would have been  
17 conducted had the statement been disclosed. 1 App. 159. The State offered an additional  
18 reason as to why it believed the testimony to be relevant:

19 Now, prejudicial, yes. But probative, very probative as to the state - this is a  
20 first degree murder trial. The intent and state of mind of the defendant before,  
21 during and after the murder, the stabbing of Victoria, is very important to this  
case. The fact that he's angry, mean, violent, and is spewing racial slurs is in  
the State's opinion probative and relevant to the case.

22 1 App. 164. The district court again denied the motion for a mistrial. 1 App. 164.

23 Improper references to race can be so prejudicial as to result in a denial of due  
24 process. Moore v. Morton, 255 F.3d 95, 114 (3rd Cir. 2001). There is no suggestion here  
25 that this incident in any way involved racial animosity. Admission of the evidence rendered  
26 the trial fundamentally unfair, resulting in a denial of due process. The evidence constituted  
27 evidence of bad character which permitted the jury to infer that O'Keefe committed the  
28 charged offense because of his bad character. This evidence uniquely tended to evoke an



1 emotional bias against O'Keefe but had no relevance to the issues of this case. Moreover,  
2 admission of this evidence violated O'Keefe's First Amendment rights. Dawson v.  
3 Delaware, 503 U.S. 159 (1992). In addition, the State's use of this evidence, as established  
4 by the State's remarks above, was an improper use of character evidence, NRS 48.045;  
5 Tavares v. State, 117 Nev. 725, 30 P.3d 1128 (2001). For each of these reasons the judgment  
6 of conviction must be reversed.

7       **D.** The district court erred by allowing photos of bruises on the body of the deceased  
8 despite the lack of relevance to this case due to the difficulty in determining the time of the  
9 bruising with the deceased's Hepatitis C and cirrhosis issues. The medical examiner testified  
10 that none of the bruises were life threatening and could have been caused by minimal  
11 contact, and could have been inflicted by Whitmarsh herself or another person. 1 App. 182.  
12 Although no causation or association with the incident was established, the district court  
13 admitted as evidence numerous photographs of bruises on Whitmarsh's body. 1 App. 182  
14 (admitting exhibits 32-38, 40, 44-48, and 55-59). Many of these photographs were also  
15 referenced during closing arguments. 2 App. 299. O'Keefe has filed a motion requesting  
16 that these photographs be transmitted to this Court so that their prejudicial impact may be  
17 fully appreciated by the Court. O'Keefe objected to the admission of photographs showing  
18 bruising on Whitmarsh's body unless there was a foundation for the assertion that they were  
19 caused by O'Keefe and were not the result of other incidents combined with her cirrhosis of  
20 the liver medical condition. 1 App. 86, 189. Despite the lack of foundation showing a nexus  
21 between the bruises and the events at issue here, and despite their highly prejudicial and  
22 inflammatory nature, the district court admitted this evidence. It was error to do so. NRS  
23 48.035; Townsend v. State, 103 Nev. 113, 117-18, 734 P.2d 705, 708 (1987). Admission of  
24 this evidence violated O'Keefe's constitutional right to a fair trial. Spears v. Mullin, 343  
25 F.3d 1215, 1225-26 (10th Cir. 2003); Romano v. Oklahoma, 512 U.S. 1, 12 (1994).

26       **E.** The district court denied O'Keefe his state and federal constitutional rights to a  
27 fair trial by allowing a police detective to testify and offer his "expert" opinion whether the  
28 wounds on O'Keefe's hands were defensive wounds, while also denying O'Keefe the right

1 to call his own expert to testify as to whether or not the wound on the deceased could have  
2 been caused by an accident. Over an objection by O'Keefe's counsel, Detective Wildemann  
3 testified that in his experience as a homicide detective, it has frequently been the case that  
4 a suspect in a stabbing has cuts on his fingers on the same area that O'Keefe had a cut on his  
5 hand. 1 App. 203. O'Keefe's counsel objected on the basis that the detective was not an  
6 expert. 2 App. 211. The district court employed a different standard, however, when it  
7 precluded a defense expert from testifying as to whether the crime scene suggested that the  
8 death might have been accidental. 2 App. 246. The defense expert, George Schiro, had  
9 extensive experience as a forensic scientist and crime scene reconstruction and he had  
10 previously testified as to whether wounds were defensive or accidental. 2 App. 240-41, 246.-  
11 48, 253-54. The district court found that the question was beyond Schiro's expertise and  
12 beyond what was identified in his report. 2 App. 248. The district court abused its discretion  
13 in allowing the State's expert to testify about his opinion as to the defensive nature of  
14 wounds without first establishing that the expert was qualified to make such an opinion.  
15 Hallmark v. Eldridge, 189 P.3d 646 (Nev. 2008). This action usurped the jury's function and  
16 violated O'Keefe federal constitutional rights to due process and a fair trial. The district  
17 court also violated O'Keefe's rights of equal protection and due process by employing a  
18 different standard for admission of testimony by a defense expert. Finally, the district court  
19 violated O'Keefe's federal constitutional rights of cross-examination and confrontation, and  
20 his right to present evidence on his behalf, by precluding the defense expert from testifying.  
21 Pointer v. Texas, 380 U.S. 400 (1965) (recognizing that the right of confrontation requires  
22 that a criminal defendant be given an opportunity to cross-examine the witnesses against  
23 him); Chambers v. Mississippi, 410 U.S. 284, 294 (1973)

24 F. O'Keefe submits that the district court abused its discretion, erred, and violated  
25 O'Keefe's state and federal constitutional rights by refusing several instructions proffered  
26 by the defense and by overruling several instructions which were objected to by the defense.  
27 Specifically, the district court refused to give an anti-flight instruction. 2 App. 230, 294, 326.  
28 Cf. Carter v. State, 121 Nev. 759, 770, 121 P.3d 592, 599 (2005). The court overruled

1 O'Keefe's instruction to the State's proffered malice instruction. 2 App. 294, 322. The court  
2 overruled O'Keefe's objection to the "absolute necessary" language of the self-defense  
3 instruction. 2 App. 294, 328. The court overruled O'Keefe's proffered instruction on  
4 voluntary manslaughter and the heat of passion and overruled the defense objection to the  
5 instruction given at trial on these issues. 2 App. 294, 296, 329-32. See Crawford v. State,  
6 121 Nev. 746, 752, 121 P.3d 582, 587-88 (2005). The court overruled O'Keefe's proffered  
7 instruction on good character. 2 App. 295, 333. See Emerson v. State, 98 Nev. 158, 162,  
8 643 P.2d 1212, 1214 (1982); Beddow v. State, 93 Nev. 619, 624, 572 P.2d 526-29 (1977).  
9 The failure to give the instructions proffered by the defense, and the giving of instructions  
10 objected to by the defense, deprived O'Keefe of his state and federal constitutional rights to  
11 have the jury properly instructed on the elements of the offense and deprived him of a fair  
12 trial. See Sandstrom v. Montana, 442 U.S. 510 (1979). Reversal is also warranted for the  
13 cumulative error involving jury instructions and the other issues presented herein.

14 24. **Preservation of issues.** All issues raised herein were preserved by timely objections at  
15 the time of trial and/or by pretrial motions, as set forth above.

16 25. **Issues of first impression or of public interest.** Yes. O'Keefe respectfully renews his  
17 request for full briefing so that each of these issues may be adequately set forth and so  
18 appropriate legal authority may be cited in support of each of the issues presented.

#### 19 VERIFICATION

20 I recognize that pursuant to N.R.A.P. 3C I am responsible for filing a timely fast track  
21 statement and that the Supreme Court of Nevada may sanction an attorney for failing to file  
22 a timely fast track statement, or failing to raise material issues or arguments in the fast track  
23 statement, or failing to cooperate fully with appellate counsel during the course of an appeal.  
24 I therefore certify that the information provided in this fast track statement is true and  
25 complete to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

26 Dated this \_\_\_ day of August, 2009.

27  
28   
Jo Nell Thomas

exhibit 17

Q 250 G30

MOTION TO SETTLE RECORD  
HEARD APRIL 7, 2009

FILED JULY 10, 2009

exhibit 17

005259

**COPY**

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA  
\*\*\*\*\*

**COPY**

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,

Defendant.

CASE NO. C-250630

DEPT. NO. 17

TRANSCRIPT OF  
PROCEEDINGS

**FILED**

JUL 10 2009

*[Signature]*  
CLERK OF COURT

BEFORE THE HONORABLE MICHAEL P. VILLANI, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2009

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT OF  
DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO SETTLE RECORD

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

PHILLIP SMITH, ESQ.  
Deputy District Attorneys

FOR THE DEFENDANT:

RANDALL H. PIKE, ESQ.  
PATRICIA A. PALM, ESQ.  
Special Public Defenders

COURT RECORDER:

MICHELLE RAMSEY  
District Court

TRANSCRIPTION BY:

VERBATIM DIGITAL REPORTING, LLC  
Littleton, CO 80120  
(303) 798-0890

Page 1

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

000387 005260



1 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2009, 9:07 A.M.

2 THE COURT: State of Nevada versus Brian O'Keefe

3 This is defendant's motion to settle the record, and if I can  
4 sort of paraphrase here, it's Mr. Pike's position that on some  
5 of the jury instructions that perhaps all of his - from the  
6 arguments of the instructions you wanted to give as well as  
7 some that you objected to were not completely stated on the  
8 record. Is that correct?

9 MS. PALM: Well, your Honor, it's - we're settling  
10 the record as to the second degree murder instruction which was  
11 instruction number 18. It's spelled out in my declaration. I  
12 believe as to that instruction we had agreed in chambers that  
13 it would not be given as written. And then when the Court got  
14 the final instructions to us right before the reading of them,  
15 the Court called us up to the bench having realized that it was  
16 supposed to be altered to delete the second degree felony  
17 murder theory, and the State had indicated, well, we won't  
18 argue that theory, and they did not argue it.

19 But it was our position at the bench that that would  
20 not correct it because the jury could still find it having been  
21 instructed in it. And so we just wanted to make we made a  
22 clear rod of that one issue. And if the State doesn't recall  
23 that any different, I'll move onto the other issue.

24 MR. SMITH: Well, how the State recalls it, Judge.

Page 2

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 MS. PALM: - and my contention exactly, your Honor,  
3 is that the Court was not going to give that instruction as  
4 written. It was a mistake at that it ended up in the final  
5 packet, and I don't think it was corrected by the State simple  
6 yeah not arguing the second degree felony murder. And I do  
7 think that was a second degree felony murder instruction, and  
8 so that would be -

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 MS. PALM: And then as to the other issue, it was  
11 Detective Mogg's testimony, and we had - if the Court recalls  
12 that we had called Detective Mogg to testify as a witness. He  
13 was not relate today this case, but it was that in 2007 he had  
14 another case which actually was my case. It was State versus  
15 Francis Bill Franco Ardonias (phonetic) was a murder suspect  
16 who claimed to be intoxicated, and Detective Mogg arranged for  
17 him to have a BETH test for alcohol, and I was going to ask the  
18 Detective, you know, was that possible to be done, how was it  
19 done, what's the training for Metro on that, and did it, in  
20 fact, happen in that case, and did you arrange it, and you  
21 know, why did you arrange it.

22 And Court ruled on the State's objection that it was  
23 collateral and not relevant to this case. Our argument that it  
24 was relevant because it showed the bad faith of the State - or  
25 the lack of good faith State investigation and the State's

Page 4

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 was that we had a dispute whether or not the language that was  
2 contained in the instruction that was ultimately submitted to  
3 the jury was, in fact, a felony second degree murder  
4 instruction. And it was our understanding that your Honor  
5 instructed us not to argue that the defendant committed the  
6 homicide in the commission of any felony, and we didn't, and  
7 that there wouldn't be a problem.

8 So I just want to make sure that the record's clear  
9 we have with the State that it was our contention that the  
10 precise language that was submit that in the instruction that  
11 actually went to the jury did not rise to the second degree  
12 felony murder instruction.

13 THE COURT: I think that was the Court's recollection  
14 that I kept the language in over the objection of the defense  
15 attorneys, but I did admonish the prosecutor that they were not  
16 going to argue felony murder rule on the case, and that's my  
17 recollection, they did not in closing.

18 MR. SMITH: And that's correct. Now, if the defense  
19 is contending that not with stand being the Court's decision  
20 that the language that was actually contained in that  
21 instruction, in fact, arose to a second degree felony murder  
22 instruction, then I mean, all I can say is the State  
23 respectfully disagrees and we can just let an appellate court  
24 determine that.

25 MS. PALM: Well -

Page 3

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 motive most minimize the alcohol intoxication in Mr. O'Keefe at  
2 the time of the offense. So the Court overruled our objection  
3 to it, and then I had no more questions for Detective Mogg. He  
4 stepped down as a witness. I just wanted to make sure our  
5 record was clear on that.

6 MR. SMITH: I actually have two replies. If I  
7 remember correctly, it was the State's position that the  
8 detective in question, which I believe it was Detective Marty  
9 Wildemann, simply testified that to his knowledge there was no  
10 other case where a homicide detective took a breath test from a  
11 suspect or defendant prior to conducting an interview. And it  
12 was - if I recall correctly, it was our position that simply  
13 because another detective in an independent case of his own  
14 accord decided to take a breath test from a suspect, which  
15 clearly was not any part of any established protocol, that they  
16 couldn't simply use that to say well, the Government acted in  
17 bad faith because Detective Wildemann didn't do in this case.

18 Furthermore, I would suggest that the issue was  
19 actually entirely moot because it stands to reason that the  
20 reason why they didn't find the defendant guilty of first  
21 degree murder was because they bought into the defense's  
22 contention that he was too drunk to form the intent.

23 MS. PALM: And your Honor, I'm not arguing the appeal  
24 here so it doesn't matter if it's moot or not.

25 THE COURT: All right.

Page 5

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

000388

005261

1 MR. SMITH: Oh, I know. I'm just making a record for  
2 -  
3 MS. PALM: I'm sending the record.  
4 MR. SMITH: I'm just making a record for the law  
5 clerk who's ultimately going to get this.  
6 THE COURT: All right, well, I think the record is  
7 clear in that regard, and, you know, I think that's why the  
8 jury did come back with a second as opposed to a first because  
9 of alcohol issue. All right, record's clear?  
10 MS. PALM: Thank you.  
11 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Judge.  
12 THE COURT: Thank you very much.  
13 MR. SMITH: Have a good day.  
14 THE COURT: You too.  
15  
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Page 6  
ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

000389  
005262

exhibit 18

0250630 Reflects 02500630

STATE'S MOTIONS OPPOSITION

AUGUST 12, 2010

Defendant charged only with  
"Malice" murder

exhibit 18

1 OPPS  
2 DAVID ROGER  
3 Clark County District Attorney  
4 Nevada Bar #002781  
5 CHRISTOPHER J. LALLI  
6 Chief Deputy District Attorney  
7 Nevada Bar #005398  
8 200 Lewis Avenue  
9 Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-2212  
10 (702) 671-2500  
11 christopher.lalli@ccda.nv.com  
12 Attorney for Plaintiff

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

BRIAN K. O'KEEFE

Defendant.

Case No: C2500630

Dept. No: XVII

Date: August 12, 2010

Time: 8:15 a.m.

STATE'S OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO ADMIT  
EVIDENCE SHOWING LVMPD HOMICIDE DETECTIVES  
HAVE PRESERVED BLOOD/BREATH ALCOHOL  
EVIDENCE IN ANOTHER RECENT CASE

COMES NOW, the State of Nevada, by DAVID ROGER, District Attorney, through  
CHRISTOPHER J. LALLI, Chief Deputy District Attorney, and hereby opposes the  
Defendant's Motion to admit evidence from other homicide cases. This Opposition is made  
and based upon all the papers and pleadings on file herein, the attached points and authorities  
in support hereof, and oral argument at the time of hearing, if deemed necessary by this  
Honorable Court.

DATED this 10th day of August, 2010.

DAVID ROGER  
Clark County District Attorney  
Nevada Bar #002781

BY /s/ Christopher J. Lalli  
CHRISTOPHER J. LALLI  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Nevada Bar #005398

1 This is not, and has never been, the law in Nevada. ... "While  
2 the authorities are not all agreed, the great weight thereof in this  
3 country is to the effect that mere intoxication cannot reduce  
4 murder to manslaughter." Appellant has advanced no persuasive  
5 reason, and we perceive none, why we should now change this  
6 rule. The refusal to give the instruction was correct.

7 *Id.* at 251-252 (quoting *State v. Fisko*, 38 Nev. 65, 77 (1937), and citing *Lisby v. State*, 82  
8 Nev. 183 (1966) and *Stewart v. State*, 92 Nev. 168 (1976)). In this case, the Defendant is  
9 only charged with a malice murder. Therefore, as the Nevada Supreme Court recognized in  
10 *Leaders*, voluntary intoxication is not a defense to that charge. To admit such evidence  
11 would only serve to prejudice, confuse and mislead the jury.

#### 12 CONCLUSION

13 Based upon all of the foregoing, the State respectfully requests that the Defendant's  
14 Motion to Admit Evidence Showing LVMPD Homicide Detectives have Preserved  
15 Blood/Breath Alcohol Evidence in Another Recent Case be denied.

16 DATED this 10th day of August, 2010.

17 DAVID ROGER  
18 Clark County District Attorney  
19 Nevada Bar #002781

20 BY /s/ Christopher J. Lalli  
21 CHRISTOPHER J. LALLI  
22 Chief Deputy District Attorney  
23 Nevada Bar #005398

#### 24 CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

25 I hereby certify that service of the above and foregoing was made this 10th day of  
26 August, 2010, by facsimile transmission to:

27 PATRICIA PALM, ESQ.  
28 FAX: (702) 386-9114

BY: /s/ Jennifer Georges  
Secretary for the District Attorney's Office



exhibit 19

Case No. 0250630

Second - AMENDED INFORMATION

FILED AUG 19, 2010

exhibit 19

005266



1 and into the body of the said VICTORIA WHITMARSH, with a deadly weapon, to-wit: a  
2 knife.

3  
4 DAVID ROGER  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
5 Nevada Bar #002781

6 BY Christopher J. Calli  
7 CHRISTOPHER J. CALLI  
8 Chief Deputy District Attorney  
9 Nevada Bar #005398

10 In addition to any other Notice of Witnesses, names of witnesses known to the  
11 District Attorney's Office at the time of filing this Information are as follows:

12 <u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
13 ARMBRUSTER, TODD	5001 OBANNON DR #34 LVNV
14 BALLEJOS, JEREMIAH	LVMPD #8406
15 BENJAMIN, JACQUELINE DR	ME 0081
16 BLASKO, KEITH	LVMPD #2995
17 BUNN, CHRISTOPHER	LVMPD #4407
18 COLLINS, CHELSEA	LVMPD #9255
19 CONN, TODD	LVMPD #8101
20 CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS	CDC
21 CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS	LVMPD COMMUNICATIONS
22 CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS	LVMPD RECORDS
23 FORD, DANIEL	LVMPD #4244
24 FONBUENA, RICHARD	LVMPD #6834
25 HATHCOX, JIMMY	3955 CHINCHILLA AVE LVNV
26 HUTCHERSON, CHRISTOPHER	LVMPD #12996
27 IVIE, TRAVIS	LVMPD #6405
28 KYGER, TERESA	LVMPD #4191

1	KOLACZ, ROBIN	5001 EL PARQUE AVE #38 LVNV
2	LOWREY-KNEPP, ELAINE	DISTRICT ATTORNEY INVESTAGATOR
3	MALDONADO, JOCELYN	LVMPD #6920
4	MORRIS, CHERYL	C/O DISTRICT ATTORNEY
5	MURPHY, KATE	LVMPD #9756
6	NEWBERRY, DANIEL	LVMPD #4956
7	PAZOS, EDUARDO	LVMPD #6817
8	RAETZ, DEAN	LVMPD #4234
9	SANTAROSSA, BRIAN	LVMPD #6930
10	SHOEMAKER, RUSSELL	LVMPD #2096
11	TAYLOR, SEAN	LVMPD #8718
12	TINIO, NORMA	2992 ORCHARD MESA HENDERSONNV
13	TOLIVER, CHARLES	1013 N. JONES #101 LVNV
14	TOLIVER, JOYCE	1013 N. JONES #101 LVNV
15	WHITMARSH, ALEXANDRA	7648 CELESTIAL GLOW LVNV
16	WHITMARSH, DAVID	7648 CELESTIAL GLOW LVNV
17	WILDEMANN, MARTIN	LVMPD #3516

18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27 DA#08F23348X/ts  
28 LVMPD EV#0811053918  
(TK9)

exhibit 20

Case No. Q250 630

PROFFERED INSTRUCTION

3RD TRIAL

PGA pg. no. 0000 24

S.C.N. Direct Appeal #G1631

exhibit 20



INSTRUCTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

The abandoned and malignant heart implied malice requires that the State prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Brian O'Keefe acted with an extreme recklessness regarding homicidal risk. That is, he must have intended to commit acts which caused the death of Victoria Whitmarsh, he must have known that his acts were likely to cause her death, and he must have consciously disregarded the risk to her life.

000024

005271

exhibit 21

CASE NO. C2S0630

S.C.N. # 58109

FILED APR 08 2011 08:51am.

SUBSEQUENT SECOND-TRIAL MISTRIAL

exhibit 21

005272

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,

Petitioner,

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
COURT; THE HONORABLE  
MICHAEL P. VILLANI,  
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE,

Respondents,

And

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Real Party in Interest.

Supreme Court No. 58109

District Court Case No. C250630  
Electronically Filed  
Apr 08 2011 08:51 a.m.  
Tracie K. Lindeman

PETITION FOR WRIT OF  
MANDAMUS OR, IN THE  
ALTERNATIVE, WRIT OF  
PROHIBITION,  
AND REQUEST FOR STAY  
OF TRIAL

Petitioner Brian Kerry O'Keefe, by and through his counsel Patricia A. Palm, hereby moves this Honorable Court for a Writ of Mandamus, or in the alternative, a Writ of Prohibition pursuant to NRAP 21, Article 6 § 4 of the Nevada Constitution, NRS 34.160 and NRS 34.320. Petitioner has satisfied the procedural requirements of verification and service. See Attached.

Parties and Procedural History

Petitioner O'Keefe is the defendant in the case of State v. O'Keefe, Eighth Judicial District Court, Case C250630, wherein he was first charged by Information with one count of Open Murder with Use of a Deadly Weapon. He invoked his speedy trial rights and was tried before a jury in March, 2009. The jury found him guilty of Second-Degree Murder, and a Judgment of Conviction was filed on May 8, 2009. O'Keefe directly appealed to this Court, and on April 7, 2010, this Court reversed his conviction for error in jury instruction. The case was retried on a Second Amended Information alleging one count of Second-Degree Murder with Use of a

1 Deadly Weapon. O'Keefe unsuccessfully moved for a mistrial based on  
2 repeated prosecutorial misconduct, including attempts to argue domestic  
3 battery syndrome as a theory of guilt and a community cause. The District  
4 Court denied O'Keefe's request for instruction on Involuntary Manslaughter.  
5 The jury deadlocked, and a mistrial was declared on September 2, 2011.

6 O'Keefe again requested a speedy trial, and trial was set for January  
7 24, 2011. The State sought to introduce new domestic battery-related bad  
8 act evidence and also noticed for the first time an expert in battered  
9 women's syndrome. O'Keefe sought to preclude this evidence, and also filed  
10 a Motion to Dismiss based on Double Jeopardy and Speedy Trial violations,  
11 which the district court denied. The district court declined to stay or  
12 continue the trial for O'Keefe to pursue a petition for extraordinary relief to  
13 this Court; however, the district court then continued the matter because  
14 O'Keefe was not prepared to defend against the new bad act evidence ruled  
15 admissible. The district court set the Petrocelli hearing for April 12, 2011,  
16 and reset trial for June 6, 2011.

17 Respondent Judge Villani has presided over this case at the two  
18 previous trials and currently presides over the district court case.

19 Real Party in Interest State of Nevada is the entity prosecuting  
20 Petitioner O'Keefe and is the party which prosecuted him during the prior  
21 two trials.

### 22 Synopsis of the Legal Arguments

23 Petitioner O'Keefe contends that the Double Jeopardy, Speedy Trial  
24 and Due Process provisions of the United States and Nevada Constitutions  
25 and NRS 178.556 prohibit another trial. Alternatively, if a third trial is not  
26 barred, then this Court's intervention is needed because the district court's  
27 determination that O'Keefe is not entitled to an Involuntary Manslaughter  
28 instruction as a lesser included offense of Second-Degree Murder will deny

1 him his rights to due process and to present a defense as granted by the  
2 United States Constitution and Nevada Constitutions.

3 **A Writ of Mandamus and/or Prohibition Is The Appropriate Remedy**

4 Petitioner O'Keefe will suffer irreparable harm by having to stand  
5 trial for a third time. O'Keefe has been in custody since 2008, and has  
6 suffered the continuing anxiety and risks of enhanced possibility of  
7 conviction attendant to repeated trials and now must suffer further delay  
8 and prepare for a third trial, at which the State will benefit from its prior  
9 misconduct and he will be denied a fair proceeding. The matters presented  
10 here concern purely legal issues which do not require factual inquiries.

11 This Court will issue a writ of mandamus "to compel the performance  
12 of an act which the law requires as a duty resulting from an office or where  
13 discretion has been manifestly abused or exercised arbitrarily or  
14 capriciously." Hidalgo v. Dist. Ct., 124 Nev. \_\_\_, \_\_\_, 184 P.3d 369, 372  
15 (2008) (quoting Redeker v. Dist. Ct., 122 Nev. 164, 167, 127 P.3d 520, 522  
16 (2006)). A writ of prohibition "serves to stop a district court from carrying on  
17 its judicial functions when it is acting outside its jurisdiction." Sonia F. v.  
18 Dist. Ct., 125 Nev. \_\_\_, \_\_\_, 215 P.3d 705, 707 (2009). An extraordinary writ  
19 may be issued "where there is not a plain, speedy and adequate remedy" at  
20 law. NRS 34.330. In addition, where an important issue of law needs  
21 clarification and public policy is served by this Court's invocation of its  
22 original jurisdiction, consideration of a petition for extraordinary relief may  
23 be justified. Mineral County v. State Dept. of Conserv., 117 Nev. 235, 243,  
24 20 P.3d 800, 805 (2001). This Court has recognized that extraordinary relief  
25 might be available for similar double jeopardy pretrial claims. See Glover v.  
26 Eighth Jud. Dist. Ct., 125 Nev. \_\_\_, 220 P.3d 684 (2009). Petitioner O'Keefe  
27 has no other plain, adequate or speedy remedy at law to protect his rights.  
28 Judicial economy and sound judicial administration warrant issuance of the  
writ.

12-15271



**Request for Relief**

Wherefore, based on the foregoing and the accompanying Points and Authorities, Petitioner O'Keefe respectfully requests that this Court issue a Writ of Mandamus and/or Prohibition requiring Respondent to grant O'Keefe's Motion to Dismiss. In the alternative, O'Keefe requests that this Court order the district court to grant O'Keefe an Involuntary Manslaughter instruction at the future trial. If this matter cannot be determined before the scheduled trial date of June 6, 2011, O'Keefe requests a stay of trial.

Dated this 7th day of April, 2011.

PALM LAW FIRM, LTD.

/S/

Patricia A. Palm, Bar No. 6009  
1212 S. Casino Center Blvd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89104  
Phone: (702) 386-9113  
Fax: (702) 386-9114  
Email: [Patricia.Palmlaw@gmail.com](mailto:Patricia.Palmlaw@gmail.com)  
Attorney for Petitioner O'Keefe

**POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF WRIT**

**I. Facts/Procedural History 2009 Trial:** The State charged Brian K. O'Keefe by Information filed December 19, 2008, with Murder with Use of a Deadly Weapon for the alleged November 5, 2008 killing of Victoria Whitmarsh. 1 Appendix (APP) 1. On January 20, 2009, he entered a plea of not guilty and invoked his rights to a speedy trial. 1 APP 5. The State filed a motion to admit evidence of other crimes, which O'Keefe opposed. 1 APP 7, 25. The State's motion addressed numerous bad acts but sought to introduce only one prior felony conviction. 1 APP 14. The district court ruled that the State could introduce evidence through witness Cheryl Morris, a woman whom O'Keefe had dated then rejected in favor of

1 Whitmarsh, that O'Keefe had stated to Morris a desire to kill Whitmarsh for  
2 putting him in prison previously and also demonstrated to Morris his  
3 proficiency at how to kill with knives. (Whitmarsh was found dead with one  
4 stab wound to her side). The court further ruled that the State could  
5 introduce certified copies of O'Keefe's 2006 Judgment of Conviction for  
6 felony domestic battery, involving Whitmarsh. Further, if O'Keefe testified,  
7 then the State could inquire into his other prior felony convictions.  
8 Pursuant to the court's ruling on his prior Judgments of Conviction, the  
9 State was permitted to introduce only the details of when O'Keefe was  
10 convicted, in which jurisdiction, and the names of the offenses, and with the  
11 felony domestic battery, the fact that Whitmarsh had testified in that case.  
12 2 APP 1-16. An Amended Information was filed. 1 APP 35. The State did  
13 not charge a theory of Felony Murder. *Id.* Trial began on March 16, 2009. 1  
14 APP 71 During this trial, the parties understood that O'Keefe could  
15 introduce evidence of the loving and forward looking relationship of O'Keefe  
16 and Whitmarsh during the period after he was released from prison without  
17 opening the door to other bad acts. 2 APP 12-13.

18 The first trial lasted five days. 2 APP 71-369; 3 APP 370-494, 4 APP  
19 495-597. Evidence was admitted to show that prior to the incident in  
20 question, O'Keefe and Whitmarsh appeared to be a loving couple and were  
21 open about their relationship. 2 APP 358 (Tr. 20-21); 4 APP 500, 503-04 (Tr.  
22 32-34, 36).

23 O'Keefe testified at this trial that he met Whitmarsh in 2001 during  
24 inpatient treatment. He explained the circumstances at the time of the  
25 incident, and he denied intentionally killing her. 4 APP 539-60.

26 During trial, O'Keefe requested to introduce medical records regarding  
27 Whitmarsh's psychiatric history, and he filed a brief on the issue. However,  
28 the district court denied this request. 4 APP 550-51, 598. The Defense also  
moved unsuccessfully for a mistrial based upon prosecutorial misconduct,

1 including the introduction of a racial slur allegedly made by O'Keefe. 3 APP  
2 319 (Tr. 179), 439-440, 450. The jury was given the verdict of guilt options  
3 of First and Second-Degree Murder and Voluntary and Involuntary  
4 Manslaughter, each with and without use of a deadly weapon. 5 APP 693.  
5 The jury returned a verdict finding O'Keefe guilty of Second-Degree Murder  
6 with Use of a Deadly Weapon. *Id.* O'Keefe filed a motion to settle the  
7 record. 5 APP 694, 700. The district court sentenced O'Keefe to 10 to 25  
8 years for Second-Degree Murder and a consecutive 96 to 240 months (8 to 20  
9 years) on the deadly weapon enhancement. 5 APP 704. A Judgment of  
10 Conviction was filed on May 8, 2009. 5 APP 709.

11 O'Keefe directly appealed, arguing that the district court erred and  
12 denied O'Keefe his constitutional rights by (A) prohibiting him from  
13 introducing evidence of Whitmarsh's prior suicide attempts, bi-polar  
14 conditions, cutting and other acts, and anger management issues and  
15 treatment; (B) refusing to strike an erroneous jury instruction on an  
16 unnoticed theory of Second-Degree Felony Murder; (C) allowing an officer to  
17 testify that O'Keefe told him to "turn off that 'nigger' music"; (D) allowing  
18 photos of bruises on the body of the deceased despite lack of relevance to the  
19 case; and (E) allowing a police detective to testify and offer his expert  
20 opinion on the wounds to O'Keefe's hands. 5 APP 721-36. (F) ? omitted

21 This Court reversed O'Keefe's conviction and remanded for a new  
22 trial, concluding that the district court erred

23 when it instructed the jury that second-degree murder involves  
24 involuntary killings that occur in the commission of an unlawful  
25 act because the State's charging document did not allege that  
26 O'Keefe killed the victim while he was committing an unlawful  
27 act and the evidence presented at trial did not support this  
28 theory of second-degree murder.

O'Keefe v. State, NSC Docket No. 53859, Order of Reversal and Remand  
(April 7, 2010). 5 APP 737-38. Further, the "error in giving this instruction

2. NO  
ISSUE  
"F" HAS BEEN  
OMITTED.  
BY ATTORNEY  
FROM S.C.N.  
# 53859

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1 was not harmless because it is not clear beyond a reasonable doubt that a  
2 rational juror would have found O'Keefe guilty of second-degree murder  
3 absent the error." *Id.* Remittitur issued on May 7, 2010, and O'Keefe's  
4 trial was reset for August 23, 2010. 5 APP 739; 6 APP 746-48.

5 **II. Facts/Procedural History 2010 Trial:** Prior to retrial, O'Keefe filed  
6 a motion to preclude evidence, which was granted, in part, and denied, in  
7 part, after hearings. 6 APP 749; 7 APP 956-92, 1028-41; 12 APP 2236. He  
8 also filed a motion to suppress his statements, which was granted, in part,  
9 and denied, in part, after hearing. This motion was partially based upon the  
10 district court's prior rulings regarding the limits on introduction of other bad  
11 acts evidence. 6 APP 826; 7 APP 996-1033. O'Keefe also noticed new expert  
12 witnesses. 6 APP 785. He filed a motion for discovery, which was granted,  
13 in part, and denied, in part after hearing. 6 APP 817, 873-77; 7 APP 957-67,  
14 1097-98. O'Keefe renewed his request to admit evidence relating to  
15 Whitmarsh's mental health condition and history, and the district court  
16 ruled that the parties should reach a stipulation, but O'Keefe could not  
17 introduce evidence of Whitmarsh's actual diagnoses. The court then ruled  
18 upon the contents of the stipulation and denied O'Keefe's request to admit it  
19 as an exhibit. 6 APP 765 (incorporating Exhibit at 5 APP 598); 7 APP 982-  
20 91, 1034-35, 1099-1111; 11 APP 1794-1796. The Court also ruled that the  
21 Defense could admit evidence regarding what O'Keefe and Whitmarsh were  
22 seen doing together prior to the incident, but could not admit opinion  
23 evidence characterizing their renewed relationship as loving without  
24 opening the door to other bad acts. 8 APP 1246-50; 9 APP 1268-79.

25 During the voir dire, a defense objection to the State's query about  
26 battered women's syndrome was sustained, and the Court ruled that no  
27 reference to syndromes would be permitted. 7 APP 1111-13.

28 During trial, O'Keefe's Judgment of Conviction for the 2006 Felony  
Domestic Battery was admitted into evidence. 11 APP 1958-59. Cheryl



1 Morris testified that she met O'Keefe in December, 2007. 9 APP 1280-84.  
2 On Father's Day, 2008, he resumed his relationship with Whitmarsh. 9 APP  
3 1285, 1290-91. O'Keefe returned to Morris, however, and Whitmarsh was  
4 persistent in calling Morris. O'Keefe told Morris that he did not love her the  
5 same way as he did Whitmarsh. 9 APP 1305. O'Keefe said he was attracted  
6 to Whitmarsh because she was submissive. *Id.* at 1290. O'Keefe came to  
7 stay with Morris at her friend Dorothy Robe's house, where they lived as  
8 boyfriend and girlfriend for a month and a half. 9 APP 1286-87, 1290.  
9 During this time he talked about Whitmarsh and his anger and desire to kill  
10 her. 9 APP 1287-88. The prosecutor asked Cheryl Morris *"During those*  
11 *same conversations would the defendant tell you about his experience in the*  
12 *military and killing people?"* 9 APP 1288. She responded, "Yes. . . . He  
13 would describe to me some of the events that - how he would go through and  
14 it would either be kill or be killed and the type of weapon he would use. . . ."  
15 *Id.* at 1288-89. He would say that "he could take a knife and shove it  
16 towards . . . [the] sternum and then just pull up and that's how he would  
17 describe killing someone. Or perhaps coming from behind and . . . taking  
18 the knife from the left side of the neck to the right side." 9 APP 1289. Those  
19 conversations would not necessarily occur at the same time as he talked  
20 about Victoria. *Id.* When Morris did not want to be with O'Keefe, she could  
21 not leave without taking him out of Dorothy's house, so she agreed to move  
22 with him. 9 APP 1291. However, just after moving into the El Parque  
23 Avenue apartment together in late August, 2008, they broke up and O'Keefe  
24 left. He later called and said that he was bringing Whitmarsh home. 9 APP  
25 1292-93. Whitmarsh also got on the phone and yelled at Morris. *Id.* at 1305.  
26 Morris denied being angry with O'Keefe for rejecting her, but her credibility  
27 was attacked during cross-examination. 9 APP 1297-1305, 1308-11.

28 Defense witness Dorothy Robe testified that Morris and O'Keefe lived  
with her for three months. She saw them every day. She never heard



1 O'Keefe say that he wanted to kill Whitmarsh and never saw him  
2 demonstrate how to kill a person with knives. 11 APP 2006, 2008. Robe did  
3 not tell Morris that she wanted O'Keefe out of her house. *Id.* at 2009.

4 On November 5, 2008, beginning shortly after 9:00 p.m., a downstairs  
5 neighbor, Joyce Toliver, began hearing noise coming from O'Keefe and  
6 Whitmarsh's upstairs apartment. 9 APP 1331, 1343. The walls and floors  
7 at the apartment were pretty thin. *Id.* at 1407. There had never been noise  
8 up there before; the couple was very quiet. *Id.* at 1343, 1349. The only voice  
9 heard at the time of the incident sounded like a female and high pitched  
10 crying and moaning. *Id.* at 1345, 1356. Charles Toliver woke up from the  
11 noise about 10:00 p.m. He heard banging noises but not voices or arguing.  
12 After a while he hit the ceiling with a broom. About 15 minutes later, he  
13 heard a loud burst of noise and he went upstairs. 9 APP 1378, 1385-88,  
14 1404, 1408-09. He hollered in the doorway of O'Keefe's apartment, and  
15 O'Keefe came to the bedroom door and said "Come get her man, come get  
16 her," as if something was wrong with her. *Id.* at 1392. Charles Toliver  
17 followed O'Keefe into the bedroom, where O'Keefe reached down and  
18 grabbed Whitmarsh, saying "Baby, wake up, baby wake up, don't . . . do me  
19 like this." *Id.* at 1395-96. O'Keefe was holding Whitmarsh's arms, trying to  
20 pick her up from the floor, and rocking her. Whitmarsh appeared to be  
21 unconscious. *Id.* at 1393-96, 1409, 1414-15. Charles ran outside and yelled  
22 for help. *Id.* at 1398.

23 Todd Armbruster testified that shortly after 11:00 p.m., he went with  
24 Charles Toliver to O'Keefe's apartment. O'Keefe was at the foot of the bed  
25 standing over Whitmarsh. 9 APP 1482, 1487. She was not moving and was  
26 naked from the waist down. O'Keefe was grabbing her legs and trying to lift  
27 her up. He was talking to her asking her to get up. *Id.* at 1487, 1496.  
28 Armbruster told O'Keefe "Hey, let me take a look at her." That's when  
O'Keefe stood up, took a swing at him and said, "Get the hell out of here."

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1 Id. at 1489, 1498-99. O'Keefe was stumbling, unsteady on his feet, was  
2 intoxicated and looked "tore up." Id. at 1498-1500.

3 Jimmy Hathcox, who lived next door to O'Keefe and Whitmarsh, had  
4 also heard a little ruckus going on which began about 10:00 p.m., but it did  
5 not seem out of the ordinary. 9 APP 1503, 1506-08. Hathcox never heard  
6 yelling, and the noises he heard from the apartment could have been  
7 someone banging things around in a temper fit. It sounded like a thumping  
8 noise and a repetitive voice. Id. at 1506, 1508. Later, Hathcox heard a bang  
9 on the rail outside, looked out and saw O'Keefe entering his apartment.  
10 O'Keefe did not appear to have anything in his hands or blood on his  
11 clothing. Id. at 1511-13. About 15 minutes after O'Keefe entered the  
12 apartment, Hathcox heard Toliver yelling for help. Id. at 1511.

13 Police responded to the scene at 11:06 p.m., but O'Keefe did not obey  
14 their commands that he leave the bedroom or Whitmarsh's body. O'Keefe  
15 yelled for officers to come into the room and stated that Whitmarsh was  
16 bleeding or breathing and had stabbed herself. At one point he said, "she's  
17 alive" and "she's dead." 9 APP 1525-28, 1528, 1530, 1543-44; 10 APP 1634-  
18 36, 1644-46, 1701. O'Keefe was mumbling and not very coherent. 9 APP  
19 1543; 10 APP 1644-46. While lying next to Whitmarsh on the floor, he was  
20 caressing the back of her head and waving his arm up and down telling  
21 police to not look at her. She was naked from the waist down. 10 APP 1640-  
22 42, 1718-19. O'Keefe was tased twice, then arrested. 10 APP 1672-73, 1720-  
23 22. Police had O'Keefe in their custody by 11:13 p.m. 9 APP 1544. Officers  
24 were inconsistent in their testimony as to which of them went over to the  
25 other side of Whitmarsh's body during the arrest and whether O'Keefe was  
26 dropped at any point. 9 APP 1543; 10 APP 1642, 1650-52, 1655-57, 1674,  
27 1682-83, 1686-87, 1703-06, 1711, 1730-32, 1734. It was possible that  
28 Whitmarsh was bumped during the arrest process and that O'Keefe went on  
top of her body during the tasing. It was also apparent that O'Keefe was

1 extremely intoxicated. 10 APP 1684-86, 1704, 1732. After his arrest,  
2 O'Keefe was saying, "You're mad at me," and, "she tried to stab me." 10 APP  
3 1699. While being held by a transportation officer, O'Keefe was obviously  
4 intoxicated, was loud, and was yelling, "What did I do, I'm not getting in the  
5 back of this car." 10 APP 1746, 1753-54. After about 5 to 10 minutes inside  
6 the car, O'Keefe passed out or fell asleep for a few minutes, then became  
7 conscious or awoke and starting talking or mumbling. 10 APP 1747-48,  
8 1752-53. He began mumbling by himself and said, "That's why I love you V,  
9 because you're so crazy;" "What did I do wrong?;" and "I swear to God, V, I  
10 didn't mean to hurt you." He also said that he wanted to do the 10 years. 10  
11 APP 1751-53.

12 O'Keefe was interrogated, and gave a rambling statement indicating  
13 he was not aware of Whitmarsh's death or its cause. The redacted  
14 interrogation was played for the jury. 11 APP 1970. Detective Martin  
15 Wildemann testified regarding the interrogation. *Id.* at 1960. The post-  
16 Miranda interrogation starts at 1:45 a.m., about two hours and forty-five  
17 minutes post incident. It continues until 2:01 a.m., which was the first  
18 break. That break lasted an hour, then O'Keefe was re-interviewed from  
19 3:06 to 3:28 a.m. 11 APP 1960, 1973. Wildemann testified regarding his  
20 experience with stabbing homicide cases. *Id.* at 1956-57. He was allowed to  
21 opine, pursuant to the district court's pretrial rulings, that it is not  
22 uncommon for people to get cut while stabbing others. *Id.* at 1961. It occurs  
23 when they encounter some sort of resistance when the knife hits the body  
24 and their fingers will slide up the handle and hit the blade. 11 APP 1962,  
25 1975-76. Wildemann had attended forensic classes but did not know how  
26 many, several over a long career. He attended a class in crime scene  
27 preservation years ago. He interpreted O'Keefe's finger injury as to  
28 meaning but he did not personally examine the thumb injury. 11 APP 1975-  
76. Wildemann also characterized O'Keefe during the interrogation as

1 lacking in sincerity. 11 APP 1966, 1971. Detectives did not collect a sample  
 2 of O'Keefe's blood because it was apparent that he was in full  
 3 comprehension. Id. at 1965. However, Wildemann was aware of LVMPD  
 4 policy allowing for blood draws and recognizing that blood alcohol level may  
 5 be an important issue. Id. at 1980-81. Although Wildemann had previously  
 6 testified there was no protocol for blood draws, he differentiates between  
 7 policy and protocol. Id. at 1982. Wildemann was aware that the use of force  
 8 report prepared by Officer Ballejos had been requested by the Defense, but  
 9 its existence was denied. Wildemann stated that the detectives did not  
 10 know of the report, which was ultimately turned over by court order. No  
 11 other reports document that O'Keefe was extremely intoxicated. Id. at 1985,  
 12 see also 10 APP 1685-86. Wildemann testified that O'Keefe ordered about  
 13 the female interrogating detective and addressed her as "young lady."  
 14 However the characterization of O'Keefe as having mistreated this female  
 15 detective was challenged on cross-examination. 11 APP 1967, 1973-74,  
 16 1988-1994.

17 After the interrogation, O'Keefe's injuries were photographed to show  
 18 the cut to his hand, bruising and scratches, and his clothing was impounded.  
 19 O'Keefe was unable to stand without officer assistance during this evidence  
 20 collection. 11 APP 1798-1824.

21 Law enforcement found no disarray in O'Keefe's apartment, except for  
 22 in the bedroom where O'Keefe and Whitmarsh were found. There was a  
 23 carving knife with an 8 inch blade on the bed, lying under a bloody pillow  
 24 case, and analysis of it showed both Whitmarsh's and O'Keefe's blood, but no  
 25 prints of comparison quality and no wipe marks. 9 APP 1523; 10 APP 1772,  
 26 1786; 11 APP 1852-53; 1892-1917; 1941-45. There was a laborer's union  
 27 jacket on the floor by some blinds that had fallen to the floor. 10 APP 1773-  
 28 74. There were also some bloody stretch pants on the bathroom floor. 11  
 APP 1927-28, 1947. O'Keefe had cuts on his right thumb and finger. 10



1 APP 1582. O'Keefe's vehicle was photographed and showed that one of the  
2 seats inside was still reclined and glasses were in the center console. 12  
3 APP 2044-49.

4 Defense forensic expert George Schiro testified that it was more likely  
5 that O'Keefe was cut while grabbing the blade in self-defense before  
6 Whitmarsh received her wound or that he cut himself accidentally or  
7 purposely after Whitmarsh was wounded than that he received his cut at  
8 the same time as she received hers. 10 APP 1590-94, 1596. Schiro also  
9 opined that the possibility of an accidental stabbing of Whitmarsh could not  
10 be ruled out by the physical evidence. *Id.* at 1596-97.

11 The Stipulation regarding Whitmarsh's mental health history was  
12 read to the jury. It showed that Whitmarsh attempted suicide in 2001 by  
13 cutting her wrists - this was her fourth suicide attempt, which was  
14 prompted by an argument with her husband which caused her to get angry  
15 and go berserk. She again attempted suicide in 2006 by cutting her wrists  
16 and overdosing after an argument with her then-estranged husband, and  
17 she admitted to cutting herself when angry, self-mutilating for 15 years,  
18 having problems with anger outbursts, poor anger management and impulse  
19 control, and having previously stabbed herself in her hands because she was  
20 not happy. 11 APP 2002-06.

21 The State's medical examiner, Dr. Benjamin, ruled the cause of  
22 Whitmarsh's death was a single stab wound to the side of the body into the  
23 liver, with a contributing factor of blunt trauma, and the cause of death was  
24 homicide. 8 APP 1210, 1216, 1219. However, neither she, nor the Defense's  
25 expert Medical Examiner, Dr. Grey, could rule out accident or suicide based  
26 on the physical evidence. 8 APP 1190, 1239, 1241-42; 9 APP 1428-29. Dr.  
27 Grey explained that the location of the knife wound was such that it could  
28 have resulted from a struggle over the knife where Whitmarsh was holding  
the knife in her right hand, and a fall on the bed. There was a small



1 puncture next to the wound that would be consistent with the knife striking  
2 the skin during a struggle. 9 APP 1426. The depth of the wound also  
3 indicated it could have been caused accidentally because the knife only was  
4 inserted 4 1/4 inches into the liver, and nothing bony would have stopped it  
5 from going further. 9 APP 1427. In addition, a small mark next to the stab  
6 wound might have been a hesitation mark indicating a self-inflicted  
7 stabbing. *Id.* at 1428. Both doctors agreed that Whitmarsh had both  
8 healing and acute bruising, but few of the bruises were determined to be  
9 acute, and the bruising could have been consistent with being injured during  
10 a struggle, a fall to the floor, bumping into things or being bumped into or by  
11 being grabbed in an effort to render aid. Whitmarsh had advanced liver  
12 cirrhosis, which exacerbates bruising, as does use of alcohol. Her blood  
13 alcohol level at the time of death was .24. 8 APP 1197-1209, 1213-14, 1219,  
14 1224-29, 1241; 9 APP 1431-48. The injury on the back of her head was  
15 small, about one and a quarter inches, and was acute. 8 APP 1225; 9 APP  
16 1434. The injury to the forehead was acute and was the only facial injury. 8  
17 APP 1225. Whitmarsh's body did not show the extensive bruising that  
18 would be expected if Whitmarsh had been beaten constantly for an hour. 9  
19 APP 1439-40. The Effexor metabolite in Whitmarsh's blood could be high if  
20 it were her steady state level. 8 APP 1215, 1234. Effexor can increase the  
21 risk of suicidal thoughts and attempts, and alcohol can disinhibit a person in  
22 suicidal behavior. 9 APP 1479-80. Cirrhosis and alcohol can impair  
23 cognition. *Id.* A medical examiner would want to know about a history of  
24 suicide attempts and a history of self-mutilation with knives when weighing  
25 the conclusion about the manner of death. 9 APP 1430.

26 O'Keefe also presented witnesses to show that he had a hope of going  
27 back to work the day of the incident, 11 APP 2027-30, and that he and  
28 Victoria were living as a couple. She had participated in his union activities  
and his alcohol treatment program. 9 APP 1316, 1322-23; 11 APP 2050-56.

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1 O'Keefe filed proposed jury instructions. 7 APP 1038. The district  
2 court refused O'Keefe's request for, *inter alia*, instruction on Involuntary  
3 Manslaughter. 12 APP 2033-43, 2072-76; see also 12 app 2191-2218 (Jury  
4 Instructions given). O'Keefe then determined not to testify. 12 APP 2081.

5 O'Keefe moved for a mistrial after closing argument, based upon  
6 misconduct including repeated attempts to argue domestic violence as a  
7 theory of guilt and a community concern. That motion was denied. 12 APP  
8 2179-2185. The jury deadlocked, and a mistrial was declared on September  
9 2, 2010. 12 APP 2221-32.

10 **III. Facts/Procedural history Third Trial:** On September 16, 2010,  
11 O'Keefe invoked his rights to a speedy trial, but reserved his right to pursue  
12 an extraordinary writ to this Court. 12 APP 2241-42. The district court set  
13 trial for January 24, 2011, with a calendar call of January 18. 12 APP 2243-  
14 45. The prior trial transcripts were filed on November 23, 2010. O'Keefe  
15 considered a writ while he also prepared for retrial.

16 On January 2, 2011, O'Keefe filed a Motion to Preclude the State from  
17 Introducing at Trial Improper Evidence and Argument. 13 APP 2246; see  
18 also 14 APP 2371 (Opposition). On January 3, 2011, the State filed a  
19 Supplemental Notice of Expert Witnesses stating that it intended to present  
20 the testimony of "an expert in battered women's syndrome, power and  
21 control dynamics, and the cycle of abuse, generally." 13 APP 2316. On  
22 January 6, 2010, the State filed a Motion in Limine to Admit Evidence of  
23 Other Bad Acts Pursuant to NRS 48.045 and Evidence of Domestic Violence  
24 Pursuant to NRS 48.061. 13 APP 2321; see also 14 APP 2449 (Opposition).  
25 On January 7, 2011, O'Keefe filed a Motion to Dismiss on Grounds of Double  
26 Jeopardy Bar and Speedy Trial Violation and, alternatively, to Preclude  
27 State's New Expert Witness, Evidence and Argument Relating to The  
28 Dynamics or Effects of Domestic Violence and Abuse. 13 APP 2344; see also

1 14 APP 2481 (Opposition). On January 14, the State filed a Supplemental  
2 Notice of Witnesses, listing numerous additional witnesses to the new bad  
3 acts evidence it sought to introduce. 14 APP 2429.

4 On January 13, 2011, the district court heard partial argument on  
5 O'Keefe's motion to preclude improper evidence and argument. The court  
6 granted the motion, in part, and denied the motion, in part, including  
7 denying O'Keefe's requests to prevent witness Cheryl Morris from testifying  
8 that O'Keefe killed people during military service. 14 APP 2438-42. The  
9 Court continued argument on the final issue raised by O'Keefe: That the  
10 State should be precluded from arguing or introducing evidence related to  
11 domestic violence syndromes and the general cause of fighting against  
12 domestic violence. 14 APP 2446-48.

13 At calendar call on January 18, 2011, the Defense stated that it could  
14 not announce ready until the remaining motions were decided, because  
15 depending on the district court's rulings, the Defense might seek a stay to  
16 pursue a writ to this Court. 14 APP 2540-41. The Defense also stated that  
17 its ability to announce ready for trial depended on whether further  
18 investigation would be needed, and that if the State were allowed to present  
19 new bad acts evidence, further delay would be attributable to the State,  
20 affecting O'Keefe's speedy trial rights. 14 APP 2541-43.

21 On January 20, 2011, the district court heard the remaining motions.  
22 The district court refused a stay or a continuance for the Defense to pursue a  
23 writ. 14 APP 2547-48. The court denied O'Keefe's Motion to Dismiss,  
24 stating that there was no misconduct, and if there was, the court did not see  
25 it as intentional. *Id.* at 2548-52. Defense counsel argued the State's  
26 battered woman's syndrome expert should be precluded. *Id.* at 2552-56.  
27 The prosecutor argued that he had a right to explain why Whitmarsh would  
28 have stayed with O'Keefe. *Id.* at 2555-57. The district court ruled, "Well,  
he's not going to – the expert's not going to say her – her particular state of

X

1 prevent retrial, Nevada's jeopardy provision should where, as here, the  
 2 prosecution has so clearly contravened the spirit of the clause. See Wilson v.  
 3 State, 123 Nev. 587, 595, 170 P.3d 975, 980 (2007) (providing greater  
 4 protection in area of resentencing), but see Glover, 125 Nev. at \_\_\_ n.5, 220  
 5 P.3d at 698 n.5 (stating that this Court has never differentiated between  
 6 state and federal protection). A defendant need not show prejudice in order  
 7 to invoke the bar where his trial ends in a mistrial. Arizona v. Washington,  
 8 434 U.S. 497, 504 n.15, 98 S. Ct. 824, 830 n.15 (1978). On review, the level  
 9 of deference given to the trial court's determination on a double jeopardy  
 10 claim varies, with the strictest scrutiny required where there is reason to  
 11 believe that the prosecutor is using the superior resources of the State to  
 12 harass or achieve a tactical advantage over an accused, or the basis for the  
 13 mistrial is unavailability of evidence and the prosecutor is guilty of  
 14 inexcusable negligence. Glover, 125 Nev. at \_\_\_, 220 P.3d at 684;  
 15 Washington, 434 U.S. at 508, 98 S. Ct. at 832. Double Jeopardy bars protect  
 16 the "deeply ingrained" principle that "the State with all its  
 17 resources and power should not be allowed to make repeated  
 18 attempts to convict an individual for an alleged offense, thereby  
 19 subjecting him to embarrassment, expense and ordeal and  
 20 compelling him to live in a continuing state of anxiety and  
 21 insecurity, as well as enhancing the possibility that even though  
 22 innocent he may be found guilty."  
 23 Yeager v. United States, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 129 S. Ct. 2360, 2365-66 (2009)  
 24 (quoting Green v. United States, 355 U.S. 184, 187-188, 78 S. Ct. 221  
 25 (1957)); Washington, 434 U.S. at 504 n.14, 98 S. Ct. at 829 n.14.  
 26 Therefore, the Double Jeopardy bar "forbids a second trial for the  
 27 purpose of affording the prosecution another opportunity to supply evidence  
 28 it failed to muster in the first proceeding." Burks v. United States, 437 U.S.  
 1, 11, 98 S. Ct. 2141, 2147 (1978). This rule lies "at the core of the Clause's  
 protections" and "prevents the State from honing its trial strategies and

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1 mind is generally this is what the dynamics of this – of a domestic violence  
 2 relationship entails. So he can't – is not going to be allowed to say this is  
 3 what she was thinking in this case." When O'Keefe's counsel questioned the  
 4 relevance of the evidence, the court responded that "there's absolutely no  
 5 case law, statutory law, that provides that on a second trial, third trial,  
 6 fourth trial the . . . State or defense can't notice new witnesses, can't notice  
 7 new experts as long as they're noticed timely." The court then found that  
 8 the State's notice was timely and indicated it would address the substantive  
 9 claim later. 14 APP 2559. The court found no Speedy Trial violation. *Id.* at  
 10 2559-64.

11 On the afternoon of January 20, 2011, the district court heard the  
 12 State's Motion to Admit Evidence of Other Bad Acts. The parties stated  
 13 their positions regarding discovery, and the Defense objected to the fact that  
 14 300 pages of new discovery was provided on January 19, 2010, and it had no  
 15 opportunity to prepare to meet this evidence. 14 APP 2569-70. The parties  
 16 argued whether the new bad act evidence and expert testimony were  
 17 permissible. 14 APP 2572-78. The district court ruled that the two guilty  
 18 pleas to domestic battery and a jury verdict were admissible; the remaining  
 19 acts might also be admissible. *Id.* at 2582-84. The court then determined to  
 20 continue the matter for a Petrocelli hearing and reset trial, based on the  
 21 Defense's inability to be ready for trial the following Monday, i.e., the 24<sup>th</sup>,  
 22 given the decision to admit new bad acts evidence. *Id.* at 2585-86.

### 23 ARGUMENT

#### 24 I. DOUBLE JEOPARDY BARS PREVENT RETRIAL

25 The Double Jeopardy Clauses of the United States and Nevada  
 26 Constitutions may entitle a defendant who is put to trial to go free if the  
 27 trial fails to end in a final judgment. See Glover v. District Court, 125 Nev.  
 28 \_\_\_, 220 P.3d 684, 692 (2009); U.S. Const. amend. V, XIV; Nev. Const.  
 art. 1, § 8. O'Keefe submits even if the federal provision is inadequate to



1 perfecting its evidence through successive trials." Tibbs v. Florida, 457 U.S.  
2 31, 41, 102 S. Ct. 2211, 2218 (1982); Johnson v. Estelle, 506 F. 2d 347, 352  
3 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1975) ("We cannot permit initial trial deficiencies to be cured by  
4 subsequent trials.") To allow the State another opportunity to produce  
5 evidence that it failed to muster at the original proceedings runs counter to  
6 Double Jeopardy principles. State v. Biegenwald, 524 A.2d 130, 150 (N.J.  
7 1987).

8 It is appropriate for both parties to revisit prior rulings and strategy  
9 following reversal of a conviction for legal error and where a verdict is  
10 against the weight of the evidence (as opposed to based on insufficient  
11 evidence). Tibbs, 457 U.S. 31, 43 n.19, 102 S. Ct. 2211, 2219 n.19 (1982);  
12 United States v. Shotwell Manufacturing Co. 355 U.S. 233, 243, 78 S. Ct.  
13 245, 252 (1957); State v. Hennessey, 29 Nev. 320, 341, 90 P. 221, 226 (1907);  
14 United States v. Gallagher, 602 F.2d 1139, 1143 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 1979). However, a  
15 mistrial should not be permitted to operate as a post-jeopardy continuance  
16 to allow the prosecution to strengthen its case. United States v. Wilson, 534  
17 F.2d 76, 80 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1976). Thus, retrial is prohibited where a prosecutor  
18 intentionally commits misconduct for the purpose of a tactical advantage,  
19 such as using an aborted proceeding as a trial run for the next. Washington,  
20 434 U.S. at 508, 98 S. Ct. at 832.

21 In Ohio v. Betts, 2007 Ohio App. Lexis 4873 (2007), 14 APP 2588, the  
22 same rare factual scenario as the instant case was presented, i.e., "the  
23 somewhat unusual backdrop of potential double jeopardy implications  
24 following the *denial* of the motion for mistrial and the case is then retried  
25 following a hung jury." Id. at 10. The court concluded that prosecutorial  
26 misconduct will bar a subsequent retrial where the prosecutor acted with  
27 the specific intent either to inspire a motion for a mistrial or to obtain a  
28 conviction where an acquittal was likely. Id. at 10-11. Courts apply  
objective factors to determine whether the governmental conduct was done

1 with improper intent. Oregon v. Kennedy, 456 U.S. 667, 675, 102 S. Ct.  
2 2083, 2089 (1982). For instance, in United States v. Lun, 944 F.2d 642, 644-  
3 46 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals considered: (1) whether  
4 the government's case was going badly, causing the prosecutor to fear  
5 acquittal and affirmatively seek a mistrial; (2) whether the government  
6 would gain from a second trial; and (3) whether the government committed  
7 repeated acts of misconduct. Applying these factors here demonstrates that  
8 the district court erred in denying O'Keefe relief on his Double Jeopardy  
9 claim.

10 (1) The government's case was going badly.

\* 11 This Court had previously recognized there was not overwhelming  
12 evidence of a Second-Degree Murder. 5 APP 737-38. At the retrial,  
13 prosecution fought the giving of a lesser included instruction on Involuntary  
14 Manslaughter though one was given at the first trial. 12 APP 2072-76.  
\* 15 None of the experts at retrial could rule out suicide or accident based on the  
16 physical evidence. The evidence showed possible innocent explanations for  
17 Whitmarah's bruising, her physical condition and alcohol use, combined with  
18 the circumstances of O'Keefe's arrest and his attempts to render aid by  
19 lifting her body. There was no evidence of any sort of domestic dispute in  
20 the days before the incident. See 9 APP 1343, 1349 (the downstairs  
21 neighbor testified there had never been noise in O'Keefe's apartment before).  
22 No witness saw any domestic dispute or battery occurring. The responding  
23 officer witnesses gave conflicting testimony, and the good faith of police  
24 investigation and motives of Cheryl Morris were challenged. 9 APP 1297-  
25 1305, 1308-11; 11 APP 2006, 2008. The prosecution's theory that O'Keefe  
26 mistreated women as indicated by his treatment of the female homicide  
27 detective was a strained but improper attempt to convict O'Keefe based  
28 upon conformity with a character trait. 11 APP 1967, 1973-74, 1988-94.

1 The jury hung at the retrial, even with the improper introduction of other  
2 bad acts evidence depicting O'Keefe as a killer and the improper argument  
3 by the State.

4 (2) The prosecution saw advantage in a successive trial.

5 Strong evidence of the prosecutor's intent came after trial with the  
6 flurry of pretrial motions seeking to admit new evidence. The prosecution  
7 obviously perceived advantages from a third trial: the ability to admit new  
8 evidence on domestic violence that was unavailable at the second trial. The  
9 State failed to notice the expert in Battered Women's Syndrome within the  
10 time to present this expert during the prior trial. See NRS 174.234(2)  
11 (requiring 21 days' notice). The rulings on the bad act issues were settled, 2  
12 APP 1-16, and the State had not timely noticed or provided full discovery for  
13 the new bad act evidence.

14 (3) The prosecution committed repeated acts of misconduct.

15 The prosecution's repeated misconduct substantially reduced the  
16 probability of acquittal and created an unacceptable risk of biased jury  
17 deliberations. See *Kennedy*, 456 U.S. at 690, 102 S. Ct. at 2097 (Stevens, J.,  
18 concurring) (jeopardy bar is appropriate where prosecutorial error  
19 substantially reduced the probability of acquittal); *Glover*, 125 Nev. at \_\_\_\_  
20 220 P.3d at 692 (improper advocacy that places prejudicial and inadmissible  
21 evidence before the jury can create an unacceptable risk of biased jury  
22 deliberations and require a mistrial).

23 A. Improper argument re domestic abuse

24 Despite the prior rulings of the court, and the understandings of the  
25 parties, during the 2010 retrial, the State repeatedly introduced the issue of  
26 battered women's syndrome as a theory of guilt and a community cause.  
27 During voir dire, the Court ruled that the State could not discuss domestic  
28 violence syndromes or define that term. 7 APP 1111-13.

1 In his opening statement, the prosecutor stated, "An anonymous  
2 domestic violence survivor once made this observation. If you can't be  
3 thankful for what you have, be thankful for what you have escaped. Well,  
4 unfortunately Victoria was not able to escape from the defendant . . . ." 8  
5 APP 1166-67. In rebuttal closing argument, the prosecutor argued,

6 *It was Ralph Waldo Emerson who said all violence, all that is*  
7 *dreary, all that repels is not power. It is the absence of power. In*  
8 *battering Victoria in the hours leading up or the minutes leading*  
9 *up to her ultimate death, the defendant didn't show us what kind*  
10 *of power he has. He showed us how weak he is. Men who beat*  
11 *women.*

12 APP 2148. The prosecution argued a theme that O'Keefe was a  
13 misogynist or a sexist who mistreated women. *Id.* at 2149. The prosecutor  
14 also made reference to Whitmarsh's bruising in various stages of healing and  
15 argued that this proved malice in that she "had been roughly handled in an  
16 ongoing bashing." A defense objection to this argument was sustained. 12  
17 APP 2171-72. The prosecutor further argued, "Mary Gianocos who is the  
18 director of Voices against Violence once said. . . everything we know . . . ." A  
19 defense objection to this argument was sustained. 12 APP 2177. The  
20 prosecutor continued, "Everything we know about domestic violence is that it  
21 is about power and controlling people. Fortunately, the defendant is no  
22 longer in control." *Id.* At the conclusion of argument, the Defense made a  
23 motion for a mistrial based, in part, on these arguments. The district court  
24 concluded that any errors did not warrant a mistrial. 8/31/10 TT 163-69.

25 It was misconduct for the prosecutor to appeal to the conscience of the  
26 community or societal concerns because the jurors' only proper focus should  
27 have been on whether the State proved its charge. *See Atkins v. State*, 112  
28 Nev. 1122, 1138, 923 P.2d 1119 (1996) (Rose, J., concurring), overruled on  
other grounds, *Beriano v. State*, 122 Nev. 1066, 1076, 146 P.3d 265 (2006).  
The prosecutor committed misconduct by intentionally referring to and



1 arguing facts outside the record. Cf. Glover, 125 Nev. at \_\_\_, 220 P.3d at  
2 696 (mistrial was necessary because the *defense* argued facts not in  
3 evidence). The improper argument relying regarding domestic violence was  
4 extremely prejudicial in light of the fact that the Defense had limited  
5 O'Keefe's evidence of a loving relationship and good character so as not to  
6 open the door to bad acts evidence, 2 APP 2-13; 8 APP 1246-50; 9 APP 1268-  
7 79, and had been denied the opportunity to explain Whitmarsh's actual  
8 psychiatric diagnoses. Further, no evidence was admissible for the purpose  
9 of showing that O'Keefe acted in conformity with the character traits of an  
10 abuser or that Whitmarsh acted in conformity with the character traits of a  
11 victim.

12 Moreover, the evidence did not conform to the charging document.  
13 Once jeopardy had attached and O'Keefe had testified, it was extremely  
14 unfair and a violation of due process for the State to argue an unlawful act  
15 (ongoing domestic violence) theory not charged in the information. This  
16 conduct was in defiance of this Court's previous determination that  
17 permitting the jury to consider an unnoticed unlawful act theory violated  
18 O'Keefe's Due Process rights because "the State's charging document did not  
19 allege that O'Keefe killed the victim while he was committing an unlawful  
20 act and the evidence presented at trial did not support this theory of second-  
21 degree murder." 5 APP 737-38. See also Jennings v. State, 116 Nev. 488,  
22 998 P.2d 557 (2000).

23 **B. Improper introduction of bad acts**

24 During the August 2010 retrial, without seeking permission, the State  
25 elicited through questioning of Morris that O'Keefe had killed people before  
26 during his military service. This evidence was irrelevant and inadmissible  
27 character evidence. See NRS 48.015; NRS 48.025(2); NRS 48.035; Roever v.  
28 State, 114 Nev. 867, 871-72, 963 P.2d 503, 505-06 (1998). The evidence was



1 extremely inflammatory as it depicts O'Keefe as an actual killer. The  
2 district court denied O'Keefe's motion to preclude this evidence at any future  
3 trial. 14 APP 2433-42.

4 C. Misconduct at original trial

5 The prosecution has now committed intentional misconduct at  
6 successive trials. Although this Court declined to rule on the issue during  
7 O'Keefe's direct appeal from the first conviction, in his original trial, the  
8 prosecution elicited testimony from a transportation officer that O'Keefe told  
9 him to "turn that nigger music off" and said "I don't listen to nigger music."  
10 3 APP 420 (Tr. 179), 422 (Tr. 188). The Defense requested a mistrial, which  
11 the district court denied. 3 APP 439-40. This denied O'Keefe his  
12 constitutional rights. See Moore v. Morton, 255 F.3d 95, 114 (3rd Cir. 2001);  
13 NRS 48.045; Tavares v. State, 117 Nev. 725, 30 P.3d 1128 (2001)).

14 In sum, the district court failed to give due weight to the objective  
15 evidence of the prosecution's prohibited intent. The prosecution proceeded  
16 to retrial aware that it could not use certain evidence. If it had not tried to  
17 do so improperly, but had simply stopped the trial for lack of this evidence, a  
18 third trial would have been barred by the Double Jeopardy Clause. See  
19 Washington, 434 U.S. at 508, 98 S. Ct. at 832 ("If . . . a prosecutor proceeds  
20 to trial aware that key witnesses are not available to give testimony and a  
21 mistrial is later granted for that reason, a second prosecution is barred.");  
22 Hylton v. District Court, 103 Nev. 418, 426, 743 P.2d 622, 627 (1987) (retrial  
23 barred where prosecutor was guilty of inexcusable negligence). The  
24 prosecution should not be rewarded for its misconduct, which tainted the  
25 jury, by receiving another chance to hone its trial strategies and to put forth  
26 evidence it had previously affirmatively abandoned.  
27  
28

1 **II. DUE PROCESS AND SPEEDY TRIAL PROVISIONS BAR**  
2 **RETRIAL**

3 The district court erred in prejudicing O'Keefe's speedy trial rights by  
4 accommodating the State's desire to revamp its case with new evidence.  
5 O'Keefe has suffered multiple trials, having to undergo the stress and  
6 anxiety attendant thereto and a lengthy pretrial detention since his arrest  
7 on November 6, 2008. The district court's rulings allowing the State's new  
8 evidence necessitated further delay in violation of O'Keefe's rights to due  
9 process and a speedy trial. U.S. Const. amend. VI, XIV; Nev. Const., art. 1,  
10 sec. 8; NRS 178.556(1). NRS 178.556(1) provides for a trial within 60 days  
11 after the arraignment on an Information and after a mistrial. Rodriguez v.  
12 State, 91 Nev. 782, 542 P.2d 1065 (1975). Dismissal for the failure to bring a  
13 defendant to trial within 60 days is mandatory if there is no good cause  
14 shown for the delay. Anderson v. State, 86 Nev. 829, 834, 477 P.2d 595, 598  
15 (1970). The State has the burden of showing good cause for delay. Id. An  
16 accused is not required to show that he was prejudiced by the failure to  
17 bring him to trial within 60 days. State v. Craig, 87 Nev. 199, 484 P.2d 719  
18 (1971).

19 X O'Keefe was arraigned on January 20, 2009, and invoked his right to a  
20 speedy trial. He at all times thereafter asserted his speedy trial rights.  
21 Even assuming the district court's calendar constitutes good cause for the  
22 January 24, 2011 trial setting after the mistrial was declared on September  
23 2, 2010, there was no good cause for the further delay caused by re-  
24 determining the law of the case to allow new evidence for which inadequate  
25 discovery had been provided until after calendar call.

26 The Defense was diligent in seeking discovery, filing a formal  
27 discovery motion, 6 APP 817, and conducting multiple reviews of the District  
28 Attorney's open file. The prosecution was aware of the additional other bad

1 acts by February, 2009. See 1 APP 7-22. However, the State failed to  
 2 provide O'Keefe with more than simple incident reports, see 14 APP 2449-  
 3 80, until after the January 18, 2011 calendar call, when it provided the  
 4 additional 300 plus pages of discovery regarding the numerous prior  
 5 criminal offenses and cases, which included statutory discovery such as  
 6 witness statements. O'Keefe was entitled to this discovery. NRS 174.235;  
 7 U.S. Const. amend V, XIV; Nev. Const. art. 1, sec. 8; Mazzan v. Warden, 116  
 8 Nev. 48, 67, 993 P.2d 25, 37 (2000); U.S. Const., amend. V, XIV. The failure  
 9 of the State to timely provide the discovery impaired his ability to mount a  
 10 defense for trial. O'Keefe's request for time to pursue a writ to this Court  
 11 was denied. A much lengthier delay, however, was necessary to meet the  
 12 State's new evidence. The Defense must now investigate new witnesses and  
 13 records. Further, the Defense must change its entire strategy and secure  
 14 the testimony of good character witnesses that it previously forwent based  
 15 upon the settled rulings in the case, the prosecution's representation that it  
 16 would not seek to admit the bad act evidence, and the Defense's desire not to  
 17 open the door to the evidence. Finally, the Defense will likely need to re-  
 18 litigate previously settled issues which relied on the previous bad acts  
 19 rulings, i.e., O'Keefe's motions to suppress his statements and admit  
 20 evidence of Whitmarsh's psychological history. See 6 APP 826; 7 APP 996-  
 21 1033. The State's lack of diligence should have barred the district court  
 22 from granting its request to admit the new evidence.

23 The district court also acted arbitrarily in accommodating the State's  
 24 desire to present new evidence. Cf. Bennett v. District Court, 121 Nev. \_\_\_,  
 25 121 P.3d 605, 610 (2005) (due process prevents the State from alleging new  
 26 aggravators during a retrial of capital penalty phase where the State had  
 27 chosen to forego these aggravators during the notice period); Browning v.  
 28 State, 124 Nev. \_\_\_, 188 P.3d 60, 74 (2008) (assuming without deciding that

1 the State might be prevented from presenting new penalty hearing evidence  
2 at a second penalty trial, but concluding that minimal additional evidence  
3 was actually introduced). The district court also favored the State in both  
4 the matter of a stay/continuance and whether any timing issue barred  
5 evidence. When the Defense sought to admit expert testimony and evidence  
6 regarding Whitmarsh's actual diagnoses, the prosecutor argued, "I mean,  
7 now what we're going to do is we're going to have a - a shrink come in, I  
8 guess, and analyze someone who's dead after the fact." The Court responded,  
9 "Well, we're not having it at this point." 7 APP 990. However, the district  
10 court ignored timing when the State sought to introduce evidence to support  
11 its theories regarding the psychological traits of Whitmarsh and O'Keeffe.

12 Contrary to the State's assertions, the new evidence which the State  
13 seeks to admit is not made admissible by NRS 48.061. Subsection 2 of that  
14 statute provides, "*Expert testimony concerning the effect of domestic violence*  
15 *may not be offered against a defendant pursuant to subsection 1 to prove the*  
16 *occurrence of an act which forms the basis of a criminal charge against the*  
17 *defendant.*" (Emphasis added.) This language demonstrates that the State's  
18 reliance on the dynamics of abusive relationships to prove its case is  
19 improper. The State relied on the 2001 amendments to NRS 48.061, see  
20 2001 Nev. Stat., ch. 360, at 1699, allowing the presentation evidence of  
21 domestic violence and its effects and limiting expert testimony. However,  
22 there is no exception in Nevada to the usual presumption against admitting  
23 such evidence under NRS 48.045. By the 2001 amendments, the Legislature  
24 sought only to remedy the problem of testifying but recanting victim and not  
25 to create an exception to the usual presumption against character evidence.  
26 See Minutes of Hearing on AB 417 Before the Assembly Comm. on  
27 Judiciary, 71<sup>st</sup> Leg. (Nev., April 5, 2001); Minutes of Hearing on AB 417  
28 Before the Senate Comm. on Judiciary, 71<sup>st</sup> Leg. (Nev., May 16, 2001).

125-1321

1                                   **IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**

2  
3       BRIAN K. O'KEEFE,  
4                                   Appellant,  
5       vs.  
6       THE STATE OF NEVADA  
7                                   Respondent.

**Supreme Court No.:**

District Court Case No.: 08C250630

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8                                   **APPELLANT'S APPENDIX – VOLUME XXVII – PAGES 5200-5399**

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	Notice of Appeal filed on 10/21/15	5552-5553
	Notice of Appeal filed on 11/03/15	5569-5571

1	Notice of Appeal filed on 11/21/14	5067-5069
2	Notice of Change of Address filed on 06/06/14	4864-4865
3	Notice of Defendant's Expert Witness filed on 02/20/09	0180-0195
4	Notice of Defendant's Witnesses filed on 03/06/09	0224-0227
5	Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Order filed on 10/06/15	5537-5546
6	Notice of Expert Witnesses filed on 03/05/09	0222-0223
7	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe for a Reasonable Bail filed on 09/24/10	1441-1451
8	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe for Discovery filed on 08/02/10	1211-1219
9	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe for Evidentiary Hearing on Whether the State and CCDC have Complied with Their Obligations with Respect to the Recording of a Jail Visit Between O'Keefe and State Witness Cheryl Morris filed on 08/02/10	1220-1239
10	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Admit Evidence Pertaining to the Alleged Victim's Mental Health Condition and History, Including Prior Suicide Attempts, Anger Outbursts, Anger Management Therapy, Self-Mutilation and Erratic Behavior filed on 07/21/10	1064-1081
11	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Admit Evidence Pertaining to the Alleged Victim's Mental Health Condition and History, Including Prior Suicide Attempts, Anger Outbursts, Anger Management Therapy, Self-Mutilation and Erratic Behavior filed on 07/21/10	1099-1116
12	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Admit Evidence Showing LVMPD Homicide Detectives Have Preserved Blood/Breath Alcohol Evidence in Another Recent Case filed on 08/02/10	1199-1210
13	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Dismiss on Grounds of Double Jeopardy Bar and Speedy Trial Violation and, Alternatively, to Preclude State's New Expert Witness, Evidence and Argument Relating to the Dynamics or Effects of Domestic Violence and Abuse filed on 01/07/11	2785-2811
14	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Preclude Expert Testimony filed on 08/16/10	1284-1291
15	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Preclude the State from Introducing at Trial Other Act or Character Evidence and Other Evidence Which is Unfairly Prejudicial or Would Violate his Constitutional Rights filed on 07/21/10	1047-1063
16	Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Preclude the State from Introducing at Trial Other Act or Character Evidence and Other Evidence Which is Unfairly Prejudicial or Would Violate his Constitutional Rights filed on 07/21/10	1082-1098
17	Notice of Motion and Motion by defendant O'Keefe to Preclude the State from Introducing at Trial Improper Evidence and Argument filed on 01/03/11	1682-2755
18	Notice of Motion and motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Suppress his	



1	Statements to Police, or, Alternatively, to Preclude the State from	
2	Introducing Portions of his Interrogation filed on 08/02/10	1152-1198
3	Notice of Motion and Motion for Leave of Court to File Motion for	
4	Rehearing – Pursuant to EDCR. Rule 2.24 filed on 08/29/14	4914-4921
5	Notice of Motion and Motion in Limine to Admit Evidence of Other Bad	
6	Acts Pursuant to NRS 48.045 and Evidence of Domestic Violence	
7	Pursuant to 48.061 filed on 01/06/11	2762-2784
8	Notice of Motion and Motion to Admit Evidence of Other Crimes filed on	
9	02/02/09	0150-0165
10	Notice of Motion and Motion to Admit Evidence of Polygraph	
11	Examination Results filed on 03/29/12	3412-3415
12	Notice of Motion and Motion to Dismiss based Upon Violation(s) of the	
13	Fifth Amendment Component of the Double Jeopardy Clause,	
14	Constitutional Collateral Estoppel and, Alternatively, Claiming Res	
15	Judicata, Enforceable by the Fourteenth Amendment Upon the States	
16	Precluding State's Theory of Prosecution by Unlawful Intentional	
17	Stabbing with Knife, the Alleged Battery Act Described in the Amended	
18	Information filed on 03/16/12	3201-3224
19	Notice of Motion and Motion to Seal Records filed on 03/22/12	3416-3429
20	Notice of Motion and Motion to Waive Filing Fees for Petition for Writ of	
21	Mandamus filed on 12/06/13	4695-4697
22	Notice of Motion and Motion to Withdraw as Attorney of Record filed on	
23	09/23/15	5517-5519
24	Notice of Motion and Motion to Withdraw as Attorney of Record filed on	
25	09/29/15	5525-5527
26	Notice of Motion filed on 01/13/14	4721
27	Notice of Motion filed on 01/21/14	4748
28	Notice of Motion filed on 01/27/14	4760
	Notice of Motion filed on 02/24/14	4810
	Notice of Motion filed on 03/04/14	4833
	Notice of Motion filed on 06/08/15	5154-5160
	Notice of Motion filed on 07/23/14	4890
	Notice of Motion filed on 08/29/14	4922
	Notice of Motion filed on 09/15/14	4953
	Notice of Witness and/or Expert Witnesses filed on 02/03/09	0166-0167
	Notice of Witnesses and/or Expert Witnesses filed on 02/17/09	0178-0179
	NV Supreme Court Clerks Certificate/ Judgment Affirmed filed on	
	02/06/15	5072-5081
	NV Supreme Court Clerks Certificate/Judgment Affirmed filed on	
	07/26/13	4653-4661
	NV Supreme Court Clerks Certificate/Judgment Dismissed filed on	
	06/18/14	4866-4870
	NV Supreme Court Clerks Certificate/Judgment Dismissed filed on	
	03/12/15	5089-5093
	NV Supreme Court Clerks Certificate/Judgment Dismissed filed on	



1	09/28/15	5520-5524
2	NV Supreme Court Clerks Certificate/Judgment Dismissed filed on 10/29/14	5062-5066
3	O'Keefe's Reply to State's Opposition to Motion to Admit Evidence Showing LVMPD Homicide Detectives have Preserved Blood/Breath Alcohol Evidence in Another Recent Case filed on 08/13/10	1256-1265
4	Opposition to State's Motion to Admit Evidence of Other Bad Acts filed on 02/06/09	0169-0172
5	Order Authorizing Contact Visit filed on 03/04/09	0219-0220
6	Order Authorizing Contact Visit filed on 08/12/10	1253-1254
7	Order Denying Defendant's Ex Parte Motion to Extend Prison Copywork Limit filed on 08/13/15	5486-5488
8	Order Denying Defendant's Ex-Parte Motion for Reimbursement of Incidental Costs Declaring Defendant Ingigent and Granting Forma pauperis filed on 03/11/14	4840-4842
9	Order Denying Defendant's Motion for Relief From Judgment Based on Lack of Jurisdiction for U.S. Court of Appeals had not Issues any Remand, Mandare or Remittature filed on 09/04/14	4927-4929
10	Order Denying Defendant's Motion to Dismiss filed on 04/11/12	3434-3435
11	Order Denying Defendant's Motion to Seal Recoreds and Defendant's Motion to Admit Evidence of Plygraph Examination filed on 05/24/12	3448-3449
12	Order Denying Defendant's Petition for Writ of Mandamus or in the Alternative Writ of Coram Nobis; Order Denying Defendant's Motion to Waive Filing Fees for Petition for Writ of Mandamus; Order Denying Defendant's Motion to Appoint Counsel filed on 01/28/14	4761-4763
13	Order Denying Defendant's Pro Per Motion for Judicial Notice- The State's Failure to File and Serve Response in Opposition filed on 04/01/14	4855-4857
14	Order Denying Defendant's Pro Per Motion for Leave to File Supplemental Petition Addressing all Claims in the First Instance Required by Statute for Judicial Economy with Affidavit filed on 07/15/15	5464-5466
15	Order Denying Defendant's Pro Per Motion to Modify and/or Correct Illegal Sentence filed on 03/25/14	4852-4854
16	Order Denying Defendant's Pro Per Motion to Withdraw Counsel for Conflict and Failure to Present Claims When I.A.C. Claims Must be Raised Per Statute in the First Petition Pursuant to Chapter 34 filed on 07/15/15	5461-5463
17	Order Denying Matthew D. Carling's Motion to Withdraw as Attorney of Record for Defendant filed on 11/19/15	5574-5575
18	Order Denying Motion to Disqualify filed on 10/06/14	5037-5040
19	Order filed on 01/30/09	0149
20	Order filed on 11/06/10	1462-1463
21	Order for Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus filed on 10/15/14	5051
22	Order for Production of Inmate Brian O'Keefe filed on 05/26/10	1032-1033
23	Order for Return of Fees filed on 11/10/11	3183
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

1	Order for Transcripts filed on 04/30/12	3442
2	Order Granting and Denying in Part Defendant's Ex-Parte Motion for Production of Documents (Specific) Papers, Pleadings, and Tangible Property of Defendant filed on 02/28/14	4818-4820
3	Order Granting Ex parte Motion for Defense Costs filed on 07/01/10	1044-1045
4	Order Granting Request for Transcripts filed on 01/20/11	2966-2967
5	Order Granting Request for Transcripts filed on 04/27/11	3043
6	Order Granting Request for Transcripts filed on 09/14/10	1430-1431
7	Order Granting Request for Transcripts filed on 09/16/10	1438-1439
8	Order Granting, in Part, and Denying, in Part, Motion by Defendant O'Keefe for Discovery filed on 08/23/10	1394-1395
9	Order Granting, in Part, and Denying, in Part, Motion by Defendant O'Keefe to Preclude the State from Introducing at Trial Other Act or Character Evidence and Other Evidence Which is Unfairly Prejudicial or Would Violate his Constitutional Rights filed on 09/09/10	1427-1429
10	Order Granting, in Part, the State's Motion to Admit Evidence of Other Bad Acts filed on 03/13/12	3199-3200
11	Order Releasing Medical Records filed on 04/08/11	3039-3040
12	Order Requiring Material Witness to Post Bail or be Committed to Custody filed on 03/10/09	0230-0231
13	Order Shortening Time filed on 08/16/10	1283
14	Petition for a Writ of Mandamus or in the Alternative Writ of Coram Nobis filed on 12/06/13	4663-4694
15	Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus or in the Alternative Motion to Preclude Prosecution from Seeking First Degree Murder Conviction Based Upon the Failure to Collect Evidence filed on 01/26/09	0125-0133
16	Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Pursuant to NRS 34.360 Exclusive 1 Based On Subject-Matter of Amended Information Vested in Ninth Circuit by notice of Appeal Then "COA" Granted on a Double Jeopardy Violation with No Remand Issued Since filed on 09/15/14	4940-4949
17	Petitioner's Supplement with Exhibit of Oral Argument Scheduled by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for November 17, 2014, Courtroom #1 filed on 10/01/14	4984-4988
18	Pro Se "Reply to State's Opposition to Defendant's Pro Se Motion to Modify and/or Correct Illegal Sentence filed on 03/04/14	4821-4832
19	ProSe "Reply" to State's Opposition to Defendant's (Ex-Parte) "Motion for Reimbursement of Incidental Costs Subsequent the Courts Declaring Defendant Indigent and Granting Forma Pauperis" filed on 02/24/14	4792-4799
20	Receipt of Copy filed on 01/03/11	2761
21	Receipt of Copy filed on 01/12/11	2812
22	Receipt of Copy filed on 01/12/11	2813
23	Receipt of Copy filed on 01/18/11	2876
24	Receipt of Copy filed on 01/27/09	0134
25	Receipt of Copy filed on 01/30/09	0146
26	Receipt of Copy filed on 02/06/09	0168

1	Receipt of Copy filed on 03/04/09	0221
2	Receipt of Copy filed on 03/24/09	0323
3	Receipt of Copy filed on 05/24/10	1031
4	Receipt of Copy filed on 06/13/11	3163
5	Receipt of Copy filed on 06/30/10	1036
6	Receipt of Copy filed on 08/02/10	1240
7	Receipt of Copy filed on 08/02/10	1241
8	Receipt of Copy filed on 08/02/10	1242
9	Receipt of Copy filed on 08/02/10	1243
10	Receipt of copy filed on 08/13/10	1255
11	Receipt of Copy filed on 09/14/10	1432
12	Receipt of Copy filed on 09/17/10	1433
13	Receipt of Copy filed on 09/21/10	1440
14	Receipt of File filed on 07/01/10	1046
15	Reply in Support of Supplemental Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction) filed on 08/25/15	5500-5510
16	Reply to State's Response to Defendant's Pro Per Post-Conviction Petition for Habeas Corpus filed on 06/16/15	5423-5432
17	Reply to State's Response to Defendant's Supplemental Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus filed on 08/24/15	5489-5499
18	Request for Rough Draft Transcripts filed on 10/21/15	5549-5551
19	Request for Rough Draft Transcripts filed on 07/17/12	3458-3460
20	Request for Certified Transcript of Proceeding filed on 09/09/09	0772-0723
21	Request for Rough Draft Transcript filed on 05/21/09	0329-0331
22	Request for Rough Draft Transcripts filed on 11/20/12	4629-4631
23	Return to Writ of Habeas Corpus filed on 01/29/09	0135-0145
24	Second Amended Information filed on 08/19/10	1326-1328
25	State's Opposition to Defendant's (Ex-Parte) "Motion for Reimbursement of Incidental Costs Subsequent the Courts Declaring Defendant Indigent and Granting Forma Pauperis" filed on 02/07/14	4768-4791
26	State's Opposition to Defendant's Motion for a Reasonable Bail filed on 09/27/10	1452-1461
27	State's Opposition to Defendant's Motion for Judicial Notice – The State's Failure to File and Serve the Response in Opposition filed on 03/10/14	4834-4839
28	State's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Dismiss filed on 03/21/12	3407-3411
29	State's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Preclude the State from Introducing at Trial Improper Evidence and Argument filed on 01/12/11	2814-2871
30	State's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Seal Records filed on 04/05/12	3431-3433
31	State's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Suppress his Statements to Police, or, Alternatively, to Preclude the State from Introducing Portions of his Interrogation filed on 08/17/10	1306-1319
32	State's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Withdraw Counsel for Conflict and Failure to Present Claims When I.A.C. Claims Must be	

1	Raised Per Statute in the First Petition Pursuant to Chapter 34 filed on 06/25/15	5442-5446
2	State's Opposition to Defendant's Pro Per Motion for Leave of Court to File Motion. . Rule 2.4 filed on 09/12/14	4935-4939
3	State's Opposition to Defendant's Pro Per Motion to Chief Judge to Reassign Case to Jurist of Reason Based on Pending Suit Against Judge Michael Villani for Proceeding in Clear "Want of Jurisdiction" Thereby Losing Immunity, Absolutely filed on 09/12/14	4930-4934
4	State's Opposition to Defendant's Pro Per Motion to Modify and/or Correct Illegal Sentence filed on 02/24/14	4811-4817
5	State's Opposition to Motion for Evidentiary Hearing on Whether the State and CCDC have Complied with their Obligations with Respect to the Recording of a Jail Visit Between O'Keefe and State Witness Cheryl Morris filed on 08/10/10	1244-1247
6	State's Opposition to Motion to Admit Evidence Pertaining to the Alleged Victim's Mental Health Condition and History, Including Prior Suicide Attempts, Anger Outbursts, Anger Management Therapy, Self-Mutilation and Erratic Behavior filed on 08/16/10	1277-1282
7	State's Opposition to Motion to Admit Evidence Showing LVMPD Homicide Detectives Have Preserved Blood/Breath Alcohol Evidence in Another Recent Case filed on 08/10/10	1248-1252
8	State's Opposition to Motion to Dismiss and, Alternatively, to Preclude Expert and Argument Regarding Domestic Violence filed on 01/18/11	2908-2965
9	State's Opposition to Motion to Preclude Expert Testimony filed on 08/18/10	1320-1325
10	State's Response and Motion to Dismiss Defendant's Motion for Relief from Judgment Based on Lack of Jurisdiction for U.S. Court of Appeals had not Issued any Remand, Mandate or Remittature of filed on 08/07/14	4891-4902
11	State's Response and Motion to Dismiss to Defendant's Pro Per Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Pursuant to NRS 34.360 Exclusive based on Subject-Matter of Amended Information Vested in Ninth Circuit by Notice of Appeal Then "COA" Granted on a Double Jeopardy Violation with No Remand Issued Since (Post Conviction), Amended Petition and Accompany Exhibits, Opposition to Request for Evidentiary Hearing, and Opposition to Pro Per Motion to Appoint Counsel filed on 10/10/14	5041-5050
12	State's Response to Defendant's Motion to Preclude the State from Introducing at Trial Other Bad Acts or Character Evidence and Other Evidence that is Unfairly Prejudicial or Would Violate his Constitutional Rights filed on 08/16/10	1268-1276
13	State's Response to Defendant's Petition for a Writ of Mandamus or in the Alternative Writ of Coram and Response to Motion to Appoint Counsel filed on 12/31/13	4708-4713
14	State's Response to Defendant's Pro Per Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus filed on 06/02/15	5145-5147
15	State's Response to Defendant's Pro Per Supplemental Petition for Writ	



1	of Habeas Corpus and Evidentiary Hearing Request, "Motion for Leave to	
2	File Supplemental Petition Addressing all Claims in the First Instance	
3	Required by Statute for Judicial Economy with Affidavit," "Reply to	
4	State's Response to Defendant's Pro Per Post Conviction Petition for	
5	Habeas Corpus," and "Supplement with Notice Pursuant NRS 47.150(2);	
6	NRS 47.140(1), that the United States Supreme Court has Docketed (#14-	
7	10093) the Pretrial Habeas Corpus Matter Pursuant 28 USC 2241(c)(3)	
8	from the Mooting of Petitioner's Section 2241 Based on a Subsequent	
9	Judgment Obtained in Want of Jurisdiction While Appeal Pending" filed	
10	on 07/09/15	5455-5458
11	State's Response to Defendant's Reply in Support of Supplemental Post-	
12	Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus filed on 09/03/15	5511-5516
13	State's Response to Defendant's Supplement to Supplemental Petition for	
14	Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction) filed on 07/31/15	5473-5475
15	State's Supplemental Opposition to Motion to Seal Records filed on	
16	04/17/12	3436-3437
17	Stipulation and Order filed on 02/10/09	0173-0174
18	Substitution of Attorney filed on 06/29/10	1034-1035
19	Supplement to Supplemental Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-	
20	Conviction) filed on 07/13/15	5459-5460
21	Supplement with Notice Pursuant NRS 47.150 (2); NRS 47.140 (1), That	
22	the United State's Supreme Court has Docketed (#14-10093) The Pretrial	
23	Habeas Corpus Matter Pursuant 28 U.S.C. § 2241 ©(3) From the Mooting	
24	of Petitioner's Section 2241 Based on a Subsequent Judgment Obtained in	
25	Want of Jurisdiction While Appeal Pending filed on 06/17/15	5433-5437
26	Supplemental Appendix of Exhibits to Petition for a Writ of Habeas	
27	Corpus Exhibits One (1) Through Twenty Five (25) filed on 06/12/15	5161-5363
28	Supplemental Notice of Defendant's Expert Witnesses filed on 07/29/10	1117-1151
	Supplemental Notice of Expert Witness filed on 05/17/12	3443-3447
	Supplemental Notice of Expert Witnesses filed on 01/03/11	2756-2760
	Supplemental Notice of Expert Witnesses filed on 08/13/10	1266-1267
	Supplemental Notice of Expert Witnesses filed on 08/16/10	1297-1305
	Supplemental Notice of Witnesses filed on 01/14/11	2872-2875
	Supplemental Notice of Witnesses filed on 03/10/09	0228-0229
	Supplemental Notice of Witnesses filed on 03/11/09	0237-0238
	Supplemental Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post Conviction) filed	
	on 04/08/15	5094-5144
	Supplemental Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus filed on 06/15/15	5364-5419
	Verdict filed on 03/20/09	0289
	Verdict filed on 06/15/12	3457
	Verdict Submitted to the Jury but Returned Unsigned filed on 09/02/10	1397-1398
	Writ of Habeas Corpus filed on 01/30/09	0147-0148



## TRANSCRIPTS

Document	Page No.
Transcript – All Pending Motions and Calendar Call filed on 02/04/11	2996-3038
Transcript – All Pending Motions filed on 07/10/09	0351-0355
Transcript – All Pending Motions filed on 08/30/12	3461-3482
Transcript – All Pending Motions filed on 11/23/10	1464-1468
Transcript – All Pending Motions on 07/10/09	0348-0350
Transcript – Calendar Call filed on 02/04/11	2968-2973
Transcript – Calendar Call filed on 08/30/12	3520-3535
Transcript – Continued Hearing: Motion in Limine to Present Evidence of Other Bad Acts filed on 08/30/12	3483-3509
Transcript – Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post Conviction) filed on 10/29/15	5560-5564
Transcript – Defendant's Pro Per Motion to Dismiss Based Upon Violation(s) filed on 08/30/12	3510-3519
Transcript – Defendant's Motion to Settle Record filed on 07/10/09	0342-0345
Transcript – Entry of Plea/Trial Setting filed on 07/10/09	0356-0358
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 1 filed on 10/14/09	0724-1022
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 1 filed on 07/10/09	0582-0651
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 1 filed on 07/10/09	0652-0721
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 1 filed on 09/04/12	4278-4622
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 1 filed on 11/23/10	1579-1602
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 2 filed on 07/10/09	0515-0581
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 2 filed on 11/23/10	1603-1615
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 2 on 09/04/12	4001-4227
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 3 filed on 07/10/09	0462-0514
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 3 filed on 11/23/10	1616-1738
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 3 on 09/04/12	3779-4000
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 4 filed on 07/10/09	0408-0461
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 4 filed on 11/23/10	1739-2032
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 4 on 09/04/12	3600-3778
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 5 filed on 07/10/09	0359-0407
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 5 filed on 09/04/12	3538-3599
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 5 filed on 11/23/10	2033-2281
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 6 filed on 11/23/10	2282-2507
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 7 filed on 11/23/10	2508-2681
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 8 filed on 11/23/10	1469-1470
Transcript – Jury Trial – Day 9 filed on 11/23/10	1471-1478
Transcript – Matthew D. Carling's Motion to Withdraw as Attorney of Record for Defendant filed on 10/29/15	5557-5559
Transcript – Motions Hearing – August 17, 2010 filed on 11/23/10	1479-1499
Transcript – Motions Hearing – August 19, 2010 filed on 11/23/10	1500-1536
Transcript – Motions Hearing – August 20, 2010 filed on 11/23/10	1537-1578

1	Transcript – Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendant O’Keefe to	
2	Preclude the State from Introducing at Trial Improper Evidence and	
3	Argument filed on 02/04/11	2974-2989
4	Transcript – Partial Transcript of the Jury Trial - Day 2 filed on 03/18/09	0240-0244
5	Transcript – Petrocelli Hearing filed on 05/19/11	3049-3162
6	Transcript – Proceedings filed on 01/02/09	0028-0124
7	Transcript – Sentencing August 16, 2012 filed on 12/03/12	4632-4635
8	Transcript – Sentencing August 28, 2012 filed on 12/03/12	4636-4652
9	Transcript – Sentencing filed on 07/10/09	0337-0341
10	Transcript – Status Check: Availability of Dr. Benjamin for Trial filed on	
11	02/04/11	2990-2995

INSTRUCTION NO. 18

Murder of the Second Degree is murder which is:

- 1) An unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought, but without deliberation and premeditation, or
- 2) Where an involuntary killing occurs in the commission of an unlawful act, the natural consequences of which are dangerous to life, which act is intentionally performed by a person who knows that his conduct endangers the life of another, even though the person has not specifically formed an intention to kill.

INSTRUCTION NO. 19

Malice aforethought means the intentional doing of a wrongful act without legal cause or excuse or what the law considers adequate provocation. It is not confined to murder committed with settled design and premeditation but extends to all cases of homicide. The condition of mind described as malice aforethought may arise, not alone from anger, hatred, revenge or from particular ill will, spite or grudge toward the person killed, but may result from any unjustifiable or unlawful motive or purpose to injure another, which proceeds from a heart fatally bent on mischief or with reckless disregard of consequences and social duty. Malice aforethought does not imply deliberation or the lapse of any considerable time between the malicious intention to injure another and the actual execution of the intent but denotes rather an unlawful purpose and design in contradistinction to accident and mischance.

INSTRUCTION NO. 24

Involuntary Manslaughter is the killing of a human being, without any intent to do so, in the commission of an unlawful act or a lawful act which probably might produce such a consequence in an unlawful manner; but where the involuntary killing occurs in the commission of an unlawful act, which, in its consequences, naturally tends to destroy the life of a human being.



exhibit 7

Case No. 0250630

FIRST TRIAL - STATE'S THEORY

OPENING STATEMENT - 2 pages

(<sup>7 pages</sup> RoA 20, 63) - TRANSCRIPT DAY 1

MARCH 16, 2009

exhibit 7

005203

**COPY**

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA  
\*\*\*\*\*

**FILED**

**JUL 10 2009**

*CLERK OF COURT*

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,

Defendant.

CASE NO. C-250630

DEPT. NO. 17

TRANSCRIPT OF  
PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE HONORABLE MICHAEL P. VILLANI, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT OF  
JURY TRIAL - DAY 1

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

PHILLIP SMITH, ESQ.  
STEPHANIE GRAHAM, ESQ.  
Deputy District Attorneys

FOR THE DEFENDANT:

RANDALL H. PIKE, ESQ.  
PATRICIA A. PALM, ESQ.  
Special Public Defenders

COURT RECORDER:

MICHELLE RAMSEY  
District Court

TRANSCRIPTION BY:

VERBATIM DIGITAL REPORTING, LLC  
Littleton, CO 80120  
(303) 798-0890

Page 1

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

000020

005204

1 defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, the State has a  
2 right to open and close the arguments. After the arguments  
3 have been completed, you will retire to deliberate your  
4 verdict. At this time, is the State ready for their opening?

5 MR. SMITH: Yes, Judge.

6 THE COURT: All right, go ahead.

7 MR. SMITH: May it please the Court, counsel, folks,  
8 despite the fact that this is a murder trial, I don't really  
9 have a long and cumbersome opening statement because fundamentally  
10 the facts of this case are pretty simple.

11 The State anticipates that the evidence that you're  
12 going to see throughout this trial is going to show that on  
13 November 5th, 2008 here in Clark County, Nevada, the defendant  
14 was living with his on again, off again girlfriend, a woman by  
15 the name of Victoria Wiermark. They had been seeing each other  
16 for several years dating back to 2001.

17 I say on again and off again, but obviously in  
18 November 2008 they were on again, and in fact, they were living  
19 together at a residence located off a street called El Parque.  
20 Now, Ms. Wiermark was actually estranged from her husband. Her  
21 actual legal name was Mrs. Victoria Wiermark. But at the time  
22 she was in a relationship with the defendant, Brian O'Keefe.

23 Mrs. Wiermark had been estranged for her husband for  
24 several years, and in fact, she had a daughter with that  
25 husband. The daughter's name was Alexandra. Now, on the night

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 THE COURT: All right, thank you, Mr. Pike, do you  
2 wish to exercise your right for opening at this time?

3 MR. PIKE: Yes, your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 MR. PIKE: May it please the Court, ladies and  
6 gentlemen of the jury, counsel, Mr. Pahn and Brian, this is an  
7 opportunity that I have to preview the defense's version of Mr.  
8 O'Keefe's version and try to put together some of the evidence  
9 that's going to be produced to you so that when it comes  
10 forward to you, it will -- it goes in context. Sometimes we  
11 have to call witnesses out of order so the best thing I can  
12 describe in opening statement is like a picture on a puzzle box  
13 because sometimes we put a piece over here in the corner, and  
14 it isn't until we bring in the other pieces that that makes  
15 sense and it all kind of fits in.

16 So once you understand the theory of the State as  
17 they presented it, now we're going to show you what the  
18 evidence is going to show in this case and why it would be  
19 appropriate to come back not with a verdict of guilty of murder  
20 in this case.

21 This is the case of the State versus Brian O'Keefe.  
22 It is a case about tragedy and not about murder. It starts out  
23 with the State alleging this premeditation. That he thought  
24 about it. He had the motive, the ill will that they talked  
25 about. But it's not supported by the physical evidence that's

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 in question, November 5th, 2008, it's the State's position that  
2 the defendant and Victoria Wiermark got into what we'll call  
3 for now an argument or an altercation.

4 Now, by no means are we conceding this was mutual  
5 combat but something happened, and the evidence is going to  
6 show you what exactly happened. At the conclusion of this  
7 altercation, it's the State's position that the evidence is going  
8 to show you that the defendant, in fact, stabbed Victoria  
9 Wiermark and that she died.

10 We also anticipate that the evidence is going to  
11 prove to you this was no self-defense, this was not an  
12 accident, and it was not a suicide. And that's what we have to  
13 prove. We have to prove that the death of Mrs. -- Mrs. Wiermark  
14 was unlawful.

15 We anticipate that we are going to prove that the  
16 death in this case was nothing less than an intentional act  
17 committed by the defendant against Mrs. Wiermark. You're also  
18 going to hear evidence indicating that the defendant had a  
19 motive to kill Mrs. Wiermark and that he had when we'll  
20 describe to an underlying ill will towards Mrs. Wiermark, which  
21 we submit is going to help us meet our burden of proving beyond  
22 a reasonable doubt that this was an intentional act.

23 And as the conclusion of all the evidence in this  
24 case, we are going to ask you to return a verdict of guilty to  
25 the crime of first degree murder. Thank you.

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 going to come in. This is the apartment where all these events  
2 occurred. It was not done in a secret or a premeditated or  
3 where somebody snuck to where someone was at and then killed  
4 them and tried to get away from what was happening.

5 It was this on again, off again girlfriend. They  
6 were living together. They were living in this apartment and  
7 neighbors were around. They worked up. This is where they  
8 came. The door was open. The evidence is going to show that  
9 when the neighbors came, they came in the door. It was open.  
10 This is not something that was done in secret, which is what  
11 you would reasonably expect or would interpret as a  
12 premeditation or planning.

13 They were a couple. They lived together. He gave  
14 her flowers. They had their clothing together. They kept an  
15 apartment. They kept a clean apartment. They had gotten over  
16 their past problems. They were hoping for that happy ending  
17 that we heard about. And they were back together.

18 The physical evidence will show that this is a couple  
19 that was bearing for a future together, (indiscernible) the  
20 bathroom, the closet space. It appears to be equally divided.  
21 They're working side by side with the union. We'll bring in  
22 union members to show that as a couple they were open. This is  
23 not something where anybody was keeping a secret. They were  
24 back together.

25 Victoria and Brian were inseparable around the union

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

exhibit 8

Case No. Q250630

Letter of Attorney Appointed

DATED April 22, 2015

Page 2 of 4

exhibit 8

005206

*argument that I've ever made. Simply put, I can only argue IAC claims against an actual lawyer, i.e., appellate counsel.*

Let me address the issues of your most current letter one by one in hopes that I can explain why they must fail in the current Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus.

***"1) State failed procedural Due Process becoming [sic] a fundamental miscarriage of justice and lack of subject matter jurisdiction by failing to 'Notice' a new alleged unlawful felon 'Act' for support of the judicially admitted 'implied' malice murder charge when the State filed [its] new Second Amended Information charging Malice Murder."***

Your argument is misplaced. The Reversal Order (04/07/10) from the 1<sup>st</sup> trial does not bar any new or revised charges. The 2-page Order simply states that the District Court erred by giving an incorrect jury instruction. The Order does not instruct the State on what they can or cannot file in a successive trial. In essence, the State starts over with the original charges or the State can amend the charges as it sees fit. Double Jeopardy is not an issue. See Order of Affirmance (61631) filed on April 10, 2013. You get a new trial.

It does not matter what Patricia Palm, Esq., argued at your 2<sup>nd</sup> trial when discussing jury instructions. Nothing precluded the State from filing an Amended Information (erroneously titled 2<sup>nd</sup> Amended Information) on August 19, 2010. The State is authorized to try the theories it feels it is capable of proving beyond a reasonable doubt. The 2<sup>nd</sup> trial resulted in a "hung jury" and, therefore, you (or Ms. Palm) didn't need to appeal any issues, etc. It doesn't matter what was argued at the first trial. Again, Double Jeopardy isn't an issue. The Order of Affirmance (61631) filed on April 10, 2013, suggests this. You get a 3<sup>rd</sup> trial with a new jury.

***"2) (One Continued)."*** This appears to be a continuation of the first argument, *supra*.

***"3) Appellate counsel failed to present issue concerning NRS 175.381."***

Again, this argument is tenuous. This isn't an issue for your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> trials because: (1) the first conviction was reversed and remanded for new trial; and (2) the 2<sup>nd</sup> trial never resulted in a verdict. I think you understand that. Therefore, it appears that you are suggesting that appellate counsel was ineffective for failing to raise certain issues on appeal. I guess appellate counsel could have argued sufficiency of the evidence because you raised it by oral motion pursuant to NRS 175.381 during your 3<sup>rd</sup> trial. However, sufficiency of the evidence arguments are tough to win AND appellate counsel makes the strategic decision on what to argue on appeal.

You are absolutely correct that the evidence in all the trials is the same, albeit rehashed with "more beefed up argument." You haven't cited any case law that suggests that this is illegal. What is insufficient to one jury may not necessary be insufficient to another. The concept of sufficiency of the evidence is addressed to the court's function, not the jury's. Generally, the court will not submit a case to the jury unless it decides as an initial matter that the State has proven each of the elements essential to its charge by sufficient evidence to justify a finding in its favor upon it. The State's burden for sufficient evidence in a criminal matter is beyond a reasonable doubt. The jury may not presume or infer any fact that has not been presented into



exhibit 9

Case No. 0250630

General Verdict Form

FILED MAR 20, 2009

exhibit 9

1 VER

2 DISTRICT COURT  
3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

FILED IN OPEN COURT  
MAR 20 2009 @ 7:56 AM

EDWARD A. FRIEDLAND  
CLERK OF THE COURT

4 THE STATE OF NEVADA,  
5 Plaintiff,

BY Kristen Brown

CASE NO: C250630

DEPUT

6 -vs-

DEPT NO: XVII

KRISTEN BROWN

7 BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,  
8 Defendant.

9  
10 VERDICT

11 We, the jury in the above entitled case, find the Defendant BRIAN KERRY  
12 O'KEEFE, as follows:

13 COUNT 1 - MURDER WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (OPEN MURDER)

14 (please check the appropriate box, select only one)

15 ☐ Guilty of FIRST DEGREE MURDER WITH USE OF A DEADLY  
WEAPON

16 ☐ Guilty of FIRST DEGREE MURDER

17 ☒ Guilty of SECOND DEGREE MURDER WITH USE OF A DEADLY  
WEAPON

18 ☐ Guilty of SECOND DEGREE MURDER

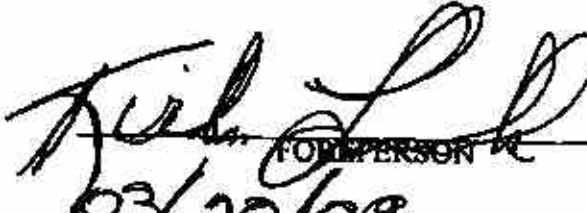
19 ☐ Guilty of VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER WITH USE OF A  
DEADLY WEAPON

20 ☐ Guilty of VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER

21 ☐ Guilty of INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER WITH USE OF A  
DEADLY WEAPON

22 ☐ Guilty of INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER

23 ☐ Not Guilty

24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
  
FOREPERSON  
03/20/09

000380

005209

exhibit 10

Real case no. Q250630

Discovery Case no. Q205165

2  
0

• Fake Case No.

DATED Oct. 24, 2015

exhibit 10

# VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT

DATE OCT. 24, 2005

OFFENDER BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE

CC#: C205145

INVESTIGATING OFFICER ?

VICTIM (BUSINESS/INDIVIDUAL) VICTORIA WHITMARSH

SOCIAL SECURITY # 069 481107

TAX ID # \_\_\_\_\_

PO BOX 97011  
MAILING ADDRESS

LV  
CITY

NV 89193  
STATE/ZIP CODE

PHYSICAL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TELEPHONE # (702) 891-0514

WORK TELEPHONE # (702) 940-1385

A. INSURANCE CLAIM SUBMITTED? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO ☒

COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

CLAIM # \_\_\_\_\_

POLICY # \_\_\_\_\_

DEDUCTIBLE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CLAIM AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SETTLEMENT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL OUT-OF-POCKET LOSS \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Not To Include Lost Wages)

B. Have you applied for or received County compensation? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO ☒ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied for or received State compensation? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO ☒ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

C. Do you intend to address the Court in person? YES ☒ NO \_\_\_\_\_

005211

exhibit 11

Case no. Q250630

STATE'S CLOSING ARGUMENT  
FIRST TRIAL

MARCH 20, 2009

ROA pages 297-301 and 308, 309

exhibit 11

005212



1 (Off-record bench conference).

2 THE COURT: I'm sorry, ladies and gentlemen.

3 (Reading of the jury instructions returned but not

4 transcribed).

5 THE COURT: Counsel.

6 MS. GRAHAM: Yes, Judge. Court's indulgence. I'm  
7 not a technical person. I apologize. So Mr. Smith is helping  
8 me out setting this up. And while we're waiting to do that, I  
9 just - it's been a long week, I think you'd all agree. It's  
10 been a long week. A lot to take in. This is a really serious  
11 case. Somebody's dead. It's the State's position that she was  
12 murdered, and it's also I'm going to tell you right off the  
13 bat, it's the State's position that defendant committed first  
14 degree murder with a deadly weapon.

15 You're going to have a verdict form here that gives  
16 lots of options for you to consider. First degree murder with  
17 use of a deadly weapon, first degree murder, second degree  
18 murder with use of a deadly weapon, second degree murder,  
19 voluntary manslaughter with use of a dead weapon, voluntary  
20 manslaughter, involuntary manslaughter with use of a deadly,  
21 involuntary manslaughter, and obviously not guilty.

22 The State's position is that this is first degree  
23 murder with use of a deadly weapon. You're going to have  
24 copies of the jury instructions. I think the judge informed  
25 you of that. So I know that that was a lot of stuff to hear

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 Direct evidence. We heard direct evidence in this case.  
2 Direct evidence is evidence from witnesses, okay. You were  
3 able to observe them while they testified, to hear the content  
4 of their testimony, to judge their credibility by their actions  
5 on the stand, their eye contact, their mannerisms. That's  
6 really important. And you all have life experience, I mean,  
7 you can judge somebody's credibility.

8 So and credibility's another one of the instructions.  
9 But the witnesses, that's direct evidence okay. Their  
10 testimony is direct evidence. The weight of that evidence is  
11 going to be determined by you. And I just gave an example.

12 Circumstantial evidence is a chain of facts. And  
13 this is real important, okay. Circumstantial evidence is a  
14 chain of facts that draws an inference that you can give weight  
15 to. And you're to give the same weight to direct evidence,  
16 evidence that you've actually heard, as things that can be  
17 inferred, and I'll give you an example of that. And I think,  
18 you know, the judge gave you an example of that at the  
19 beginning of this case.

20 I guess the best example that comes to my mind is  
21 because I'm from the Midwest, and it snows there a lot. You  
22 are home, you're awake, you lookout the window, you see the  
23 snow falling on the ground, you see the snow. That's the  
24 direct evidence. The difference between that, circumstantial,  
25 is I go to bed that night, I wake up the next morning, I

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 and read. You're not going to have to try to remember it.  
2 You're getting copies of all of that to take back with you.

3 My job now is to try to help explain all of those  
4 things that the judge said and how that would apply to this  
5 case. And how the evidence in this case proves that he  
6 committed first degree murder with use of a deadly weapon, a  
7 knife.

8 Now let's see if this works for me. Your job is very  
9 important, as the judge told you when you first got here and  
10 through voir dire, and that's why we took a lot of time. The  
11 system wouldn't work without you guys because, you know, we  
12 want everybody of different backgrounds and different  
13 experiences on our jury. Your sole duty when you go back in  
14 that deliberation room right now is to determine what crime was  
15 committed by the defendant.

16 Jury instructions, those are the law. That's the law  
17 in Nevada per the judge and actually per our legislature.  
18 Whether you agree with the law or not, it's the law, and you  
19 all took an oath to follow the law. And what the judge  
20 described to you and what my attempts to explain to you the law  
21 in the state and of course, defense will explain to you law of  
22 the state, that's the law, folks. And that's what you have to  
23 apply to the evidence in this case. But, again, you're going  
24 to have copies.

25 Two types of evidence. Direct and circumstantial.

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 lookout the window, there's snow all over the ground. I can  
2 infer that it snowed last night, right. I mean, that's an  
3 inference I can draw because when I went to bed, it - there  
4 was no snow on the ground, I didn't see it snow. I didn't see  
5 it snow, but when I woke up, there's snow on the ground, so  
6 wouldn't that be a reasonable inference? Yes, that would be a  
7 reasonable inference.

8 And you're to give the same weight to circumstantial  
9 evidence as you are to direct evidence. So you can infer. You  
10 need to use your common sense. Credibility of the witnesses,  
11 live testimony. Like I said, he discussed that. That's so  
12 important. You know, we've had so many people testify. We've  
13 had officers testify today. We've had the defendant testify.  
14 We've had lay witnesses, neighbors testify, medical examiners  
15 testify, doctors testify. That live testimony, you can judge  
16 the credibility of those witnesses because you were here, you  
17 watched, you observed. Evaluate the ones that are supposed to  
18 judge the credibility and their motives to lie.

19 You can disregard the entire testimony of a witness  
20 if you don't find them credible. That's important. If you  
21 find any one of our witnesses not credible, you're free under  
22 the law to disregard that entire testimony. So remember that.  
23 Don't get caught up in trying to figure things out. Common  
24 sense. That's a big one want you don't leave it at the door.

25 There's a jury instruction - I think there's a jury

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

000297 005213

1 instruction that says you bring your common sense and life  
2 experience in. You don't leave it at the door. That's why  
3 there's so many - you know, on each side of you, you're all  
4 different. You all have different life experience. You're to  
5 bring that life experience and your common sense into that  
6 deliberation room. Don't forget it, okay.

7 Punishment. Your duty at this point right now when  
8 you go back in the deliberation room is confine to the guilt of  
9 the defendant. Whether or not he's guilty and what he's guilty  
10 of. You were not to discuss punishment. The judge instructed  
11 you on that. Or consider the subject of punishment during your  
12 deliberations as to his guilt. That cannot be a factor in your  
13 determination of what he's guilty for. The judge has  
14 instructed you on that, and that is the law in Nevada. You  
15 need to put that aside.

16 What is murder? I'm going to try to break it down.  
17 I mean, it's so complicated. There's just - you know, you -  
18 I was watching some of you. It's like well, what does all that  
19 mean? Well, murder is the unlawful killing of a human being  
20 with malice aforethought. Malice aforethought can be expressed  
21 or implied. What is malice aforethought? We know what killing  
22 another human being is, right? Okay. But what's malice  
23 aforethought? Intentional killing without legal cause or  
24 excuse or what the law would consider adequate provocation.  
25 Okay, so it's intentional. An intentional killing

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 What happened in my Power Point?  
2 The intent to kill, though, can be a certain or  
3 deduced from the facts and circumstances of the killing. So  
4 the intention of the person that killed, you can deduce that  
5 from all of the facts and circumstance of the evidence that we  
6 presented to you today or throughout the week. Most  
7 importantly, such as the use of a weapon that's calculated a  
8 deduced detective in the manner that it was used and the  
9 circumstances surrounding that act. That can be inferred.

10 Deduced. There doesn't have to be an amount of time,  
11 a (indiscernible) amount of time needed between the formation  
12 of the intent to kill and the act of killing itself, okay.

13 What is deliberation? You think about it first, you weigh the  
14 options, consider the consequences, you make a decision. That  
15 decision, folks, can be made very, very quickly by  
16 premeditation, decision to kill, formed in the mind of the  
17 killer, before the killing. It can be as instantaneous as  
18 successive thoughts of the mind. Less than a minute.

19 The law doesn't measure the length of time of  
20 premeditation, okay. It doesn't require how long that thought  
21 must be pondered in the mind before it's premeditated. That's  
22 really important for you to understand. Time can be varied  
23 based on the individual and the circumstances of the evidence  
24 that is presented to you. Instantaneous just is successive  
25 thought in the mind. The law doesn't look at the duration of

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 without legal cause or excuse. Anger, hatred, revenge, ill  
2 will or spite is not required for malice, okay. That's in your  
3 injury instructions, so don't feel like you're going to have to  
4 remember everything that I tell you. Expressed malice is the  
5 deliberation intention to take away the life of another.  
6 Deliberately do it. Implied malice. Malice can be implied  
7 just kind of like the circumstantial evidence kind of thing.  
8 You know, you can imply malice when an considerable  
9 provocation appears or when all of the circumstances of a  
10 killing show an abandoned or malignant heart. So there's  
11 implied malice as well as expressed. It can be deliberate or  
12 you can imply it. And you can imply it with no provocation  
13 appears and when all of the circumstances showing a killing of  
14 an abandoned or malignant heart.

15 Simply put, malice aforethought means it wasn't an  
16 accident, okay. Malice aforethought simply put, not an  
17 accident. What is first degree murder? The killing was  
18 willful, deliberate, premeditated. All of those have  
19 definitions, too, believe it or not. Of course, they do.  
20 Okay. And each case is different.

21 What is willfulness? The intent to kill. The intent  
22 to kill - you intended it kill. That's willful. You know, we  
23 kind of all know we what - we willfully do things everyday.  
24 You know, we willfully get in our car and come to the - start  
25 it and drive down to the court house to sit for jury duty.

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 time for premeditation.  
2 If you believe the evidence - from the evidence that  
3 the act constituting the killing was opinion preceded by and  
4 has been the result of premeditation, no matter how rapidly,  
5 the killing's premeditated.

6 What is second degree murder? The killing was not  
7 deliberate, not premeditated. Just intentional. Voluntary  
8 manslaughter. Killing without malice aforethought,  
9 deliberation or premeditation with provocation. An example  
10 would be a serious injury. Self-defense, maybe. Or somebody  
11 is trying to hurt you. With no time to think. An irresistible  
12 impulse in the heat of passion.

13 And the objective standard, though, for that heat of  
14 passion is an ordinary person would have killed without  
15 thinking. I mean, it's just innate, okay. You're in a  
16 circumstance where, you know, let's say that you're at the zoo  
17 and a tiger comes out of the cage and he's loose, I mean, it  
18 would be - you wouldn't even think to try to save your  
19 daughter or, you know, that's instantaneous. That's an  
20 instantaneous - that's what an ordinary person would do. You  
21 know, a situation where an ordinary person would kill.

22 Involuntary manslaughter, killing without any intent  
23 during the commission of an unlawful act or a lawful act which  
24 probably might produce such a consequence in an unlawful  
25 manner. [But where the involuntary killing occurs is the]

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

000298

005214

INSTR 2)

1 commission of an unlawful act which in its consequences  
2 naturally tends to destroy the life of a human being the  
3 offense is murder.

4 What's a deadly weapon? Well, it's complicated,  
5 according to the law. Any instrument if used in the ordinary  
6 manner contemplated by its design and construction will or is  
7 likely to cause substantial bodily harm or death. Or any  
8 weapon, device, any instrument, under the circumstances it was  
9 used or attempts to be used or threaten to be used that's  
10 readily capable of causing substantial bodily harm or death is  
11 a deadly weapon. And of course, our contention is that a knife  
12 was the deadly weapon.

13 Substantial, what's substantial bodily harm?  
14 Substantial bodily harm means that it's bodily injury which  
15 creates a substantial risk of death or causes serious  
16 impairment, disfigurement or prolonged physical pain. All  
17 right, what's self-defense. We use the reasonable person  
18 standard. Honest but unreasonable does not negate malice and  
19 does not reduce the offense from murder to manslaughter.

20 It has to be reasonable under the reason person  
21 standard. There has to be the threat of imminent death.  
22 Imminent means quicker than immediate. Or substantial bodily  
23 harm. So there has to be a risk of imminent death or  
24 substantial bodily harm, which, again, was, you know, the  
25 threat of serious bodily injury.

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 The killing was absolutely necessary to avoid your  
2 death or substantial bodily harm in this case, as it applies in  
3 this case. The reasonable person standard. Fear alone is not  
4 enough. And you cannot use more force than was necessary under  
5 the law. And it doesn't apply to initial aggressors.

6 Intoxication. We've heard about intoxication. If an  
7 intoxicated person has the capacity to form the intent to take  
8 a life and he commits and executes that intent, that's no  
9 grounds for reducing the degree of this crime. There are other  
10 instructions that are the packet. Those are pretty much  
11 self-explanatory.

12 How do we know defendant killed Victoria? Well, for  
13 one thing, there's been absolutely no evidence that anybody was  
14 in the room but the defendant and Victoria. I don't think  
15 identity's an issue in this case. All right, this is how we  
16 know it's first degree murder. It wasn't an accident. It was  
17 willful. I don't think I have to go through all the facts.

18 You guys, there's been so much testimony here. Use your common  
19 sense. Use all the evidence. You can infer that there was an  
20 accident here. The medical examiner testified that the  
21 location of the wound - you can view the photos yourself and  
22 determine that this was no accident. It was willful. The act  
23 of stabbing Victoria was willful.

24 It was premeditated. He had time to think about it  
25 and thought about it. Remember, premeditation can be quick

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 instantaneous? How do we know all this? Well, I'm going to  
2 get to that what it was deliberate. And there was definitely  
3 malice aforethought, either express, definitely implied. Okay.

4 MOL PIKE: Objection, your Honor. May we approach  
5 the bench, I'm sorry.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 MR. PIKE: I hate to interrupt Counsel's argument.  
8 (Off-record bench conference).

9 MS. GRAHAM: Okay. So we look at the evidence before  
10 the murder, during the murder and after the murder. What did  
11 he say, the defendant? What did he do before the murder? He  
12 said I want to kill the bitch. He told Cheryl Morris that I  
13 want to kill the bitch, she's poison. Why? He told her why.  
14 She took three years of his life.

15 You can judge the credibility of Cheryl Morris  
16 herself. He even told her how he could kill somebody with a  
17 knife. He demonstrated to Cheryl that he can kill somebody  
18 with a knife. He talked about his proficiency in the services  
19 with a knife. His training. Before the murder he said all  
20 that.

21 What about during the murder? Well, that's a little  
22 tougher because we don't really know what was said or exactly  
23 in what order that transpired. We know that the Tellers, who  
24 live directly under the defendant and Victoria that night,  
25 directly under, were in their bedroom where the murder occurred

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 directly under. And Joyce told you as she was laying in bed,  
2 she heard lots of thumping, lots of noise, a woman crying.  
3 She kept turning up the volume. It got louder. It won't on  
4 for about an hour. She heard thumps, she heard crying. And  
5 then at one point it got so loud, it woke Cookie (phonetic) up.  
6 You remember, he jumps up, what the hell? Stick the broom up  
7 - you know, the old broom trick on the ceiling, you know, to  
8 try to quiet it down. It didn't quiet it down. It got louder.

9 And then Cookie was so frickin' irritated because he  
10 was awoken. He went up there to tell them to quiet down, and  
11 what did he see? Well, he saw Victoria laying there in a pool  
12 of blood. And Cookie's reaction is what the hell did you do?  
13 He ran down stairs, started calling for people to call 911.  
14 Defendant never asked him to call 911. He saw Cookie. Told  
15 him to get out. Most importantly, one of the things that we  
16 can infer that during the murder, since we don't know exactly  
17 how everything transpired, we have photos.

18 The photos, and you know the saying? A picture is  
19 worth a thousand words. These are all going to be back in the  
20 jury room, State's Exhibit 55, State's Exhibit 56, State's  
21 Exhibit 59, State's Exhibit 46, State's Exhibit 39, State's  
22 Exhibit 58, 57. There's more, folks. I'm not going to show  
23 you all of them. How about this one, 87 State's Exhibit 60.  
24 How about this one, Defendant's Exhibit UU7? That says it all,  
25 really. Picture's worth a thousand words.

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1 After, well after - after, we have Todd coming in  
2 the room. Todd Ambruster, remember the neighbor or the  
3 maintenance guy that worked on the property? He came in the  
4 room because Cookie's like dude, you know, call 911. He's done  
5 killed that little girl. Todd goes up there. He goes into the  
6 room. He sees Victoria lying on the pool of blood. And what  
7 does the defendant do? He says get the fuck out, and he takes  
8 a swing at him, right? That's what Todd testified to. You can  
9 believe Todd if you want to, but -

10 So he takes a swing at Todd. Todd calls 911. They  
11 leave. Cookie says he seen this face. They all - Todd,  
12 Cookie, and even the neighbor next door, Doorny (phonetic), who  
13 saw the defendant that night - described this face, this scary  
14 face that the defendant had. It scared Cookie. You remember  
15 he wanted to get the hell out of there. He wanted to get the  
16 hell out of there because he said he didn't know what would  
17 happen to him.

18 So defendant didn't call 911. We know that because  
19 Detective Wilderman told you that he checked the cell phones,  
20 and there was absolutely no entry of 911. I think there were  
21 three cell phones, maybe four recovered from that apartment.  
22 He didn't call 911. He didn't call for help. If this was an  
23 accident, if this was self-defense, if she stabbed herself,  
24 you'd call 911 for help.

25 And when they came, because other people had to call,

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1 blood on the floor.

2 They cannot send emergency personnel in a situation,  
3 a dynamic situation like that. Defendant would allow - even  
4 if she was alive at that point, he wouldn't allow her to be  
5 treated. He would not allow them to enter the room to help  
6 her. They had to take him twice and drag him out of the room.  
7 Well, he says he doesn't want to leave her body.

8 He testified - I mean - let's see, what else  
9 happened after? Okay, he told Hutchinson, you know, once he  
10 was in custody he was put in the back of a patrol car - a  
11 patrol car. He says sorry, V, I didn't mean to hurt you, let's  
12 go, let's go, let's do the ten years. Sorry V doesn't cut it.  
13 Sorry V.

14 The fact that you have remorse after you kill someone  
15 does not negate the intent to kill at the time. Sorry V, that  
16 doesn't cut it. He made so many statements. You know what, I  
17 can't - I'm not even going to go into them because we would be  
18 here all week.

19 You saw the defendant testify in his taped statement.  
20 Well, you saw the taped statement that Detective Wilderman -  
21 it was Detective Wilderman and Detective Kieger (phonetic), I  
22 believe - Kieger. You guys saw that. You know how many  
23 different statements he made and things he said. You were able  
24 to watch his demeanor, and you were able, you know, to observe  
25 Detective Wilderman and Detective Kieger with him. You can

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1 you wouldn't have a stand off in the bedroom with them. You  
2 would let them attend to a woman that you supposedly love  
3 bleeding all over the floor. But that didn't happen. Instead  
4 when they got there, you heard from Officer Conn, Santarossa,  
5 Ballojas, Taylor, Hutchinson, they were all on the scene. He  
6 wasn't going to let them near him and Victoria. They're  
7 shouting to him, you know, is she hurt? What is defendant  
8 saying? She's dead, she's alive, get the fuck out, go away,  
9 fuck you, fuck - there's so many inconsistent statements.  
10 There's so many things the defendant said.

11 But what we do know is he never would allow - and  
12 the police sergeant Metro, we need to get her help, is she  
13 alive, is she dead? He wouldn't respond want get the fuck out.  
14 We need to get medical to her. Get the fuck out. Okay, so  
15 what happens, you know? They're worried about this woman  
16 laying on the floor. They can't go in there? Why can't they  
17 go in there? There's protocol. They don't have him in his  
18 line of sight?

19 They see a woman's feet at first. Sergeant Newberry,  
20 I believe peeks around the corner, there was testimony of that,  
21 and sees and says cover me, you know. They can't go there.  
22 They think he's beating him, you know. They testified to all  
23 the things that he was saying and his demeanor, and they think  
24 they're beating him. He - they can't see. They don't know if  
25 there's a weapon. They just see a woman lying in a pool of

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1 judge their credibility and theirs during that interview. And  
2 you guys are going to have that, and if you want to, you can  
3 watch it again.

4 He testified today, so you can judge that credibility  
5 of him on the stand today, you know. You can infer, you can,  
6 you know, the demeanor. You know, there's a box of Kleenex  
7 right there. I didn't see one Kleenex lifted out of that box  
8 while he was up there. You guys saw it. You know when he said  
9 I can't go over it, it's - there's too much.

10 You know what's interesting, in opening statement Mr.  
11 Pike gave, you know, a brief opening where he said one stab  
12 wound, one stab wound. And I find it really ironic that today  
13 on the stand the defendant when referred to alcohol, what did  
14 he say? One is too many. One drink is too many. Well, one  
15 stab wound is too many.

16 This is much more than second degree murder. Second  
17 degree would only apply if defendant acted intentionally but  
18 did not have the time to think about what he was doing  
19 (indecipherable). No successive thoughts before  
20 stabbing Victoria death. He hadn't folks. The facts show he  
21 had plenty of time for the weighing of choices and decided to  
22 kill despite the possible consequences. There's plenty of  
23 time.

24 I mean, co-counsel Smith's - even if you believe the  
25 defendant's version of, you know, the incident between him and

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000300 005216

1 Victoria, he had plenty of time to think about it. The  
2 defendant had time to premeditate. Again, remember  
3 premeditation. It's not, you know, planning for days or weeks.  
4 Prior to the stabbing defendant had successive thoughts about  
5 what he was going to do. This is much more than voluntary  
6 manslaughter. Again, defendant had plenty of time to think  
7 about what he was about to do, to weigh his choices and  
8 consider the consequences. Defendant went the Victoria dead,  
9 it's not self-defense.

10 We talked about self-defense and what that is by law,  
11 it's not self-defense. You know, even if you believe the  
12 defendant's version that Victoria had the knife and came at him  
13 and was the initial aggressor, you know, he's bigger. What did  
14 everybody say, all the neighbors? She's a little bitty thing.  
15 She was a little thing. You know, we have her driver's  
16 license. She was what - well, he even admitted, what, she's  
17 five, four, a buck ten, as Mr. Smith said. You know, she's a  
18 little bitty thing.

19 And he could have used other means. So self-defense  
20 is just absolutely - it - it's so far from the realm of  
21 self-defense. Deadly weapon. This is a murder with use of a  
22 deadly weapon. The knife was the cause of death, okay.  
23 According to the law, I at this point that this would qualify,  
24 even though Wolfgang Puck probably didn't contemplate his  
25 butcher knife being used to stab somebody to death, I think

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1 told you is the - talked about regarding the jury  
2 instructions. When Mr. Pice argued to you, he told you that  
3 you should start your deliberations in this case with a second  
4 degree murder or in other words, you'll be able to rule out a  
5 first degree murder pretty fast, and here's why: instruction  
6 16 tells you how you consider evidence of voluntary  
7 intoxication, and you can consider that evidence to reduce the  
8 intent - as far as the intent requirement for a murder.

9 A first degree premeditated murder, as instruction 16  
10 will tell you, requires - ooops. It requires deliberation.  
11 That's this right here. Deliberation's the process of  
12 determining upon a course of action to kill as a result of  
13 thought, including weighing the reasons for and against the  
14 action and considering the consequences of the action. A  
15 deliberate determination may be arrived at in a short period of  
16 time, but in all cases the determination must not be formed in  
17 passion or if formed in passion, it must be carried out after  
18 there's been time for the passion to subside and deliberation  
19 to occur. A mere unconsidered and rash impulse is not  
20 deliberate, even if it includes the intent to kill.

21 And also, a first degree murder requires that you  
22 find premeditation. As far as premeditation is defined, the  
23 word (indiscernible) duration of time, but the extent of the  
24 reflection. A cold, calculated, judgment and decision may be  
25 arrived in a short period of time, but a mere unconsidered

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1 that this certainly qualifies under the law as a deadly weapon.  
2 He talked about his proficiency with a knife.

3 In conclusion, after weighing all of the evidence -  
4 and there's a lot, you guys have a task ahead of you - State  
5 is asking you to return a verdict of guilt for first degree  
6 murder with use of a deadly weapon. Thank you.

7 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Green. Ms. Palm.

8 MS. PALM: Thank you, Judge. Good afternoon, ladies  
9 and gentlemen. This may be your last time that I get to talk  
10 to you because as you heard at the beginning of this case, if  
11 you come back with anything other than a first degree murder  
12 verdict, we're done. If you come back with a first degree  
13 murder verdict, then we would be doing another penalty phase  
14 after this. So and after my closing today, the State will get  
15 another chance. They get that other chance to argue again  
16 because they have the burden of proof.

17 MS. GRAHAM: Objection, Judge. You know, the law  
18 says -

19 MR. SMITH: Can we approach?

20 MS. GRAHAM: - that we're not -

21 MR. SMITH: Let's approach.

22 THE COURT: Sustained. No, overruled. Go ahead, Ms.  
23 Palm, you're first. Go ahead.

24 MS. PALM: So they will argue again, and this will be  
25 it for us. I just want to address some points that Ms. Graham

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1 and rash impulse, even though it includes an intent to kill, is  
2 not a deliberation, and premeditation as will fix the unlawful  
3 killing of murder of the first degree.

4 So you can consider Mr. O'Keefe's extreme  
5 intoxication when you're considering whether the State has  
6 proved to you a first degree murder, and I submit to you they  
7 have not. In addition the State has the burden of proving,  
8 before you consider any of crimes, they have the burden of  
9 proving beyond a reasonable doubt the absence of self-defense  
10 and accident. They have not done so.

11 And I also submit that Ms. Graham has spoke a little  
12 bit as far as implied malice because implied malice in this  
13 case does not apply to a first degree murder theory. If you  
14 were going to find guilt under a theory of implied malice, you  
15 have to only go to second degree murder.

16 And there's another instruction that might be a  
17 little confusing to you, and that is instruction 18. It talks  
18 about second degree murder. The only part of this instruction  
19 that applies to this case is the first part, murder of the  
20 second degree is murder which is an unlawful killing of a human  
21 being with malice aforethought, the same thing required for  
22 third degree murder, but without the deliberation and  
23 premeditation for a first degree murder.

24 MR. SMITH: Judge, may we approach?

25 THE COURT: I think it's okay. It's argument. Go

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005217



1 that she's dead, Mr. O'Keefe breaks down and cries. The video  
2 didn't support that. What it showed was a person who sat there  
3 for several seconds and then began to kind of whine. And you  
4 heard the testimony from the detective who was actually there,  
5 that he saw no tears, he saw no wetting up of her eyes, he saw  
6 no reaction. That's because he already knew she was dead. He  
7 was just kind of playing a game.

8 Now let's talk about credibility. They've already  
9 said the credibility instruction, and we're talking about  
10 Cheryl Morris. Now, the defense attorney wants you to believe  
11 that Cheryl Morris came in here and basically told you a lie  
12 the stand because she was a jilted ex-girlfriend. But this is  
13 the same ex-girlfriend that the defense attorney called and  
14 said hey, you know, we think that Mr. O'Keefe's - you still  
15 have Mr. O'Keefe's glasses, can you bring them. She brought  
16 them.

17 Does that sound like the woman who has an ax to  
18 grind? She brought the man's glasses. When asked on the stand  
19 well, why are you here, because I was subpoenaed. She's  
20 subpoenaed, she gets on the stand, she's takes an oath where  
21 she's asked questions, she tells the - she provides the  
22 answer. She certainly didn't seem like a woman scorn. They  
23 want you to believe that this is hell hath no fury like a  
24 woman scorned simply because the defendant cheated on her  
25 sometime ago.

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1 on direct examination, did you ever demonstrate on her how you  
2 could kill somebody with a knife? He said well, no, I didn't  
3 demonstrate. Well, certainly that can infer that he admits  
4 that he at least told her.

5 Why would she make that up? Because she hates him?  
6 I don't think so. And let's talk about the testimony of Joyce  
7 and Todd and the timing here. The evidence certainly supports  
8 that there was noise coming from that apartment for an  
9 extensive period of time. Not five minutes, not ten minutes,  
10 but for an extensive period of time. And at some point it got  
11 so loud that Mr. Toliver was upstairs to find out what was  
12 going on. And we all know what happened after that, the police  
13 were called.

14 This brings me to circumstantial evidence. You heard  
15 Joyce Toliver talk about how she could hear the woman crying  
16 during the time that she heard that noise. Some of you might  
17 be thinking well, this whole scenario could have been avoided  
18 if Ms. Toliver had called the police. That might be true, but  
19 that doesn't change the facts of this case, folks. And it  
20 doesn't get the defendant off the hook.

21 You got a woman crying, you got loud noises, you have  
22 signs of disturbance inside that apartment, inside that  
23 bedroom, and you have a woman looking like the way she looks in  
24 these photographs with all those bruises. You have an injury  
25 to the front of her head. You have an injury to the back of

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1 But you also heard that Ms. Witmarsh stopped dealing  
2 with Mr. O'Keefe in August when she moved out. And now some  
3 six or seven months later he want you to believe that she still  
4 has this pinned up aggression that she would craft this  
5 preposterous story about - they want you to believe it's  
6 preposterous, but that she would make up this story about what  
7 the defendant told her about his underlying disdain or animosity  
8 towards Victoria Witmarsh because what had happened.

9 Now, some of you may say but yeah, they were together  
10 at the time. Sure, but that doesn't mean that he didn't have  
11 some deep seeded disdain for what happened during that time she  
12 testified against him in front of a jury of people like you.  
13 It doesn't change the fact because there could be an alternate  
14 scenario as to what happened that night, and I'll get to that  
15 in a second.

16 You heard Ms. Witmarsh say that the defendant told  
17 her that he wanted to kill the bitch because she took away  
18 three years of his life by testifying against him. Take into  
19 consideration that her testimony is corroborated by the  
20 evidence. The judgment of conviction that's been admitted into  
21 evidence, folks, read it.

22 The defendant said that he served about two years,  
23 but I'd ask you this, how would Cheryl know this information  
24 unless the defendant told her? Cheryl testified that the  
25 defendant told her he was proficient with knives. When asked

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1 her head. That's certainly circumstantial evidence of a  
2 battery or something that precipitated a stabbing.

3 Now, if he started this, he can't now claim  
4 self-defense because the law says the initial aggressor does  
5 not have the right to self-defense. That's the law, Ms. Pike  
6 -- excuse me, Ms. Paine also said that doubt Cheryl Morris'  
7 credibility because she called the police. Well, it's  
8 reasonable to infer it's because she learned what had happened  
9 in that apartment, and she had some relevant information to  
10 provide. That's not unlike something that anyone would do  
11 under those circumstances. Not just a person who had an ax to  
12 grind.

13 The night in question the defendant never said look,  
14 this is where I got injured. But not some several months  
15 later, he wants to fall back on that as some evidence  
16 corroborating that this little woman trying to kill him that  
17 night. Folks, it's unreasonable under these circumstances.

18 Now, with regards to the testimony about the DNA, you  
19 can't really conclude anything from that but except that two  
20 people came into contact with knife, Victoria Witmarsh and  
21 Brian O'Keefe. And the reason why is because the defendant  
22 doesn't even know what happened to that knife after she got  
23 stabbed, and you can see on the pictures that there's  
24 pillowcases laying on top of it. There's an indication that  
25 the blade may have been wiped off. I mean, you can't just --

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000308

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1 you can't really just trust the testimony of Dr. Schiro and  
2 that his interpretation means that these wounds are totally  
3 defensive because I've shown how they aren't.

4 Now, briefly allow me to talk about the defendant's  
5 testimony on the stand. He tells you about his military  
6 service some 25 years ago. We know since then some things have  
7 happened in his life. The law says that you can take, for  
8 instance, his felony convictions as evidence in assessing his  
9 credibility, especially when combined with the fact that he's  
10 — the story's he's given today is inconsistent with the story  
11 he told Cheryl Wrennash (sic), and it's inconsistent with the  
12 story he gave on that videotape.

13 Folks, I'm almost done. Ms. Palm wants you to  
14 consider the defendant's actions after this happened as  
15 evidence that he didn't mean anything to happen on the night in  
16 question, but that's not what the law says. The law says you  
17 determine a person's intent at the moment they commit the act.  
18 And this makes sense because sure, a lot of times people are  
19 sorry that they kill somebody after it's happened and/or before  
20 they get caught. But it doesn't mean — it doesn't make the  
21 underlying act any less criminal.

22 Now, in talking about reasonable doubt, the  
23 instruction tells you exactly what reasonable doubt is. It  
24 says doubt to be reasonable must be actual, not mere  
25 possibility or speculation. I submit to you the story that the

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ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

1 (Swearing in the marshal)  
2 (Outside the presence of the jury)  
3 THE COURT: Let the record reflect we're outside the  
4 presence of the jury panel. I just want to put on the record  
5 when I read the jury instructions, instruction number 1, as was  
6 provided to counsel, actually I read it as is, but it was  
7 retyped because if you look at line 11, the word instructions  
8 was broken up on the line, and that was just retyped. And so  
9 the corrected — or the typed version is provided to the jury.

10 Instruction 42 that was original provided to the  
11 attorneys at line 7 and line 8 it says read back, and I had  
12 that — I read it as play back, but it's originally typed for  
13 both counsel and read back, and so that was fixed.  
14 And instruction 43, which you had copies of, was just  
15 the instruction that I signed, and the signature line was moved  
16 up. So three changes were made and those changes were included  
17 in the packet of jury instructions provided to the jury panel.  
18 And everyone has provided their cell phone numbers to the  
19 clerk, and please within 15, 20 minutes of the court house to  
20 be called. It's my understanding is that they wish to  
21 deliberate tonight and —

22 MR. PIKE: I plan on staying here —

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 MR. PIKE: — until (indiscernible).

25 MS. PALM: Yes, I'll be here, too.

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1 defendant gave does not comport with the evidence, and I'm  
2 talking about the story he gave today and yesterday on the  
3 stand. He said that she fell backwards, he fell on top of her,  
4 and somehow she ends up stabbed.

5 Now, folks, if you land on — I submit to you that if  
6 you land on somebody with all your body weight and you weigh  
7 180 something pounds and you land on them and a knife goes into  
8 them because your entire body weight is on them and they only  
9 weigh a hundred pounds, the blade is going to go in a lot  
10 further than four inches. It's going to go all the way in  
11 because all your weight is on them.

12 But here, the length of the wound was four inches,  
13 which is consistent with an intentional stabbing, but  
14 consistent with an accidental stabbing where you fall on top of  
15 the person holding the knife. That's another part of common  
16 sense. So what we're asking you to do here is to use some  
17 common sense, realize that the credibility of the State's  
18 witnesses shouldn't be questioned under the circumstances of  
19 this case, take into the fact — take in fact that the State's  
20 evidence has corroborated. Go ask me to convict him. We've  
21 met our burden. The burden is beyond a reasonable doubt. It  
22 says that if you find an abiding conviction and the truth of  
23 the charge, there is no reasonable doubt. Thank you.

24 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Smith. The clerk will now  
25 swear in the marshal to take charge of the jury panel.

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1 THE COURT: All right.  
2 MS. GRAMAM: Judge, (indiscernible).  
3 MR. SMITH: I'll be here but no guarantee I'll be  
4 sober.

5 THE COURT: Okay.

6 MS. PALM: Yeah, me either.

7 THE COURT: That's off the record, Michelle.  
8 (Court recessed at 4:02:58 p.m. until 7:12:53 p.m.)  
9 (In the presence of the jury)

10 THE COURT: You may be seated. I understand that we  
11 have a verdict, and Mr. Livernash, are you the foreperson?

12 JUROR NO. 6: Yes, sir.

13 THE COURT: Please hand the verdict form to the  
14 marshal. The clerk will now read the verdict.

15 THE CLERK: District Court, Clark County, Nevada,  
16 State of Nevada, plaintiff versus Brian Kerry O'Keefe,  
17 defendant. Case No. CZ566 — 230630, Department No. 17.  
18 Verdict. We the jury in the above-entitled case find the  
19 defendant, Brian Kerry O'Keefe, as follows: Count one, murder  
20 with use of a deadly weapon, open murder, guilty of second  
21 degree murder with use of a deadly weapon. Dated this March  
22 20th, 2009. Signed by the foreperson, Kirk Livernash. Ladies  
23 and gentlemen of the jury, is this your verdict as read? So  
24 see you one, to say you all.

25 THE JURY: Yes.

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exhibit 12

CL50630

Case no. 2:11-cv-02109-GMN-VCF

ORDER FILED Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Emphasis: see page 5, highlighted

exhibit 12



1 In the first trial, the jury found O'Keefe guilty of one count of second-degree murder  
2 with the use of a deadly weapon. On direct appeal, the Supreme Court of Nevada reversed  
3 and remanded on the following basis:

4  
5 Appellant Brian Kerry O'Keefe contends that the district  
6 court erred by giving the State's proposed instruction on second-  
7 degree murder because it set forth an alternative theory of  
8 second-degree murder, the charging instrument did not allege this  
9 alternate theory, and no evidence supported this theory. We  
10 agree. . . . Here, the district court abused its discretion when it  
11 instructed the jury that second-degree murder includes  
12 involuntary killings that occur in the commission of an unlawful act  
13 because the State's charging document did not allege that  
14 O'Keefe killed the victim while he was committing an unlawful act  
15 and the evidence presented at trial did not support this theory of  
16 second-degree murder. Cf., Jennings v. State, 116 Nev. 488,  
17 490, 998 P.2d 557, 559 (2000) (adding an additional theory of  
18 murder at the close of the case violates the Sixth Amendment  
19 and NRS 173.075(1)). The district court's error in giving this  
20 instruction was not harmless because it is not clear beyond a  
21 reasonable doubt that a rational juror would have found O'Keefe  
22 guilty of second-degree murder absent the error. See Neder v.  
23 United States, 527 U.S. 1, 18-19 (1999); Wegner v. State, 116  
24 Nev. 1149, 1155-56, 14 P.3d 25, 30 (2000), overruled on other  
25 grounds by Rosas v. State, 122 Nev. 1258, 147 P.3d 1101  
26 (2006). . . .

27 April 7, 2010, *Order of Reversal and Remand*, at 1-2 (#1, at electronic docketing pages 10-  
28 11).

18 The second trial ended in a mistrial after the jury deadlocked on a verdict.

19 Petitioner thereafter moved to dismiss on double jeopardy grounds. The state district  
20 court denied the motion, and petitioner filed an original writ petition in the Supreme Court of  
21 Nevada. The state supreme court denied relief on the following basis:

22 O'Keefe claims that pervasive prosecutorial  
23 misconduct in the second trial and the State's efforts to call  
24 different witnesses in his upcoming trial operate as an exception  
25 to the well-settled proposition that double jeopardy poses no  
26 obstacle to a retrial following a hung jury. See Arizona v.  
27 Washington, 434 U.S. 497, 509 (1978). We disagree. First, the  
28 district court, in resolving O'Keefe's motion to dismiss, concluded  
that there was no prejudicial misconduct by the State in the last  
trial. Moreover, the fact that the district court declared a mistrial  
because the jury was hopelessly deadlocked remains dispositive.  
See United States v. Perez, 22 U.S. 579, 580 (1824). We  
therefore conclude that double jeopardy poses no bar to  
O'Keefe's retrial and decline to intervene in this matter.



1 May 10, 2011, Order Denying Petition, at 1-2 (#1, at electronic docketing pages 12-13)  
2 (footnote declining to reach non-double jeopardy claims omitted).

3 Petitioner mailed the present federal petition for filing on or about December 20, 2011.  
4 He seeks federal intervention to bar the third trial, which is currently scheduled according to  
5 the petition for on or about June 11, 2012.

#### 6 Discussion

7 As backdrop, petitioner appears to rely upon *Stow v. Murashige*, 389 F.3d 880, 888  
8 (9th Cir. 2004), as support for the proposition that he can seek federal intervention in the  
9 pending state criminal proceedings under § 2241 prior to a judgment of conviction because  
10 he is raising a double jeopardy challenge. However, while a petitioner may pursue a double  
11 jeopardy claim in federal habeas proceedings before the conclusion of the state proceedings,  
12 the claim raised in federal court still must have been exhausted in the state courts. See, e.g.,  
13 *Mannes v. Gillespie*, 967 F.2d 1310, 1312 & 1316 n.2 (9th Cir. 1992). Moreover, as  
14 discussed, *infra*, the exception to the general rule that federal courts do not intervene in  
15 pending state criminal proceedings extends only to double jeopardy claims, not also to other  
16 constitutional claims.

#### 17 Exhaustion

18 Under 28 U.S.C. § 2254(b)(1)(A), a habeas petitioner first must exhaust his state court  
19 remedies on a claim before presenting that claim to the federal courts. To satisfy this  
20 exhaustion requirement, the claim must have been fairly presented to the state courts  
21 completely through to the highest court available, in this case the Supreme Court of Nevada.  
22 E.g., *Peterson v. Lampert*, 319 F.3d 1153, 1156 (9th Cir. 2003) (*en banc*); *Vang v. Nevada*, 329  
23 F.3d 1069, 1075 (9th Cir. 2003). In the state courts, the petitioner must refer to the specific  
24 federal constitutional guarantee and must also state the facts that entitle the petitioner to relief  
25 on the federal constitutional claim. E.g., *Shumway v. Payne*, 223 F.3d 983, 987 (9th Cir.  
26 2000). That is, fair presentation requires that the petitioner present the state courts with both  
27 the operative facts and the federal legal theory upon which his claim is based. E.g., *Castillo*  
28 *v. McFadden*, 399 F.3d 993, 999 (9th Cir. 2005). The exhaustion requirement insures that the

1 state courts, as a matter of federal-state comity, will have the first opportunity to pass upon  
2 and correct alleged violations of federal constitutional guarantees. See, e.g., *Coleman v.*  
3 *Thompson*, 501 U.S. 722, 731, 111 S.Ct. 2546, 2554-55, 115 L.Ed.2d 640 (1991).

4 In the present case, petitioner concedes in the petition that he did not present any of  
5 the grounds of the petition to the state courts through to the Supreme Court of Nevada.

6 In Ground 1, petitioner raises a double jeopardy claim. Petitioner acknowledged in the  
7 responses to the exhaustion queries in the petition that Ground 1 was not raised on a direct  
8 appeal, in a post-conviction petition, or in any other proceeding. He either checked "no" or  
9 indicated "not applicable" as to each such situation.

10 The double jeopardy claim raised in Ground 1 is not the same claim as the double  
11 jeopardy claim considered by the Supreme Court of Nevada on the petition filed in that court.  
12 The state supreme court considered a double jeopardy claim based upon an assertion that  
13 double jeopardy should bar a third trial because the State allegedly engaged in prosecutorial  
14 misconduct in and after the second trial. The double jeopardy claim in Ground 1 instead is  
15 based upon different operative facts. In Ground 1, petitioner claims that the state supreme  
16 court's reversal after the first trial was based upon a finding of insufficient evidence is  
17 tantamount to a dismissal. Presentation of the double jeopardy claim considered by the state  
18 supreme court in the petition there did not exhaust the double jeopardy claim based on  
19 different operative facts that is presented in Ground 1.

20 Ground 1, as conceded by petitioner, thus plainly is unexhausted.

21 Petitioner further expressly concedes that the claims in Grounds 2 and 3 also are  
22 unexhausted, indicating "no," "n/a," and "not this issue" in the appropriate spaces in response  
23 to the exhaustion inquiries in the petition.

24 Petitioner therefore must show cause why the wholly unexhausted petition should not  
25 be dismissed without prejudice for lack of exhaustion.

#### 26 ***Younger Abstention***

27 As a general rule, even when the claims in a petition, *arguendo*, otherwise have been  
28 fully exhausted in the state courts, a federal court will not entertain a habeas petition seeking

1 intervention in a pending state criminal proceeding, absent special circumstances. See, e.g.,  
2 *Sherwood v. Tomkins*, 716 F.2d 632, 634 (9th Cir. 1983); *Carden v. Montana*, 626 F.2d 82,  
3 83-85 (9th Cir. 1980); *Davidson v. Klinger*, 411 F.2d 746 (9th Cir. 1969). This rule of restraint  
4 ultimately is grounded in principles of comity that flow from the abstention doctrine of *Younger*  
5 *v. Harris*, 401 U.S. 37, 91 S.Ct. 746, 27 L.Ed.2d 669 (1971). Under the *Younger* abstention  
6 doctrine, federal courts may not interfere with pending state criminal proceedings absent  
7 extraordinary circumstances. As noted previously, however, consideration of pretrial double  
8 jeopardy claims constitutes an exception to this abstention doctrine. E.g., *Mannes, supra*.

\* 9 In the present case, Ground 1 is a double jeopardy claim, and the collateral estoppel  
10 claim in Ground 2 would appear to be based upon double jeopardy protections. \*

11 Ground 3, in contrast, asserts a claim of ineffective assistance of trial counsel. Ground  
12 3 thus would appear to be subject to the general rule of *Younger* requiring that the federal  
13 court abstain from interfering with the pending state criminal proceeding.

14 Petitioner therefore must show cause why Ground 3, even if *arguendo* exhausted,  
15 should not be dismissed without prejudice under the *Younger* abstention doctrine.

16 IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that, within thirty (30) days of entry of this order, petitioner  
17 shall SHOW CAUSE in writing why: (a) the petition should not be dismissed without prejudice  
18 for lack of exhaustion; and (b) why Ground 3 also is not subject to dismissal without prejudice  
19 based upon the *Younger* abstention doctrine.

20 IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that, if petitioner maintains that any claims in the petition  
21 have been exhausted, petitioner shall attach with his show cause response copies of any and  
22 all papers that were accepted for filing in the state courts that he contends demonstrate that  
23 the claims are exhausted.

24 If petitioner does not timely and fully respond to this order, or does not show adequate  
25 cause as required, the entire petition will be dismissed without further advance notice.<sup>1</sup>  
26

27  
28 <sup>1</sup>The Court has not completed initial review herein as to other potential issues, and this order does  
not explicitly or implicitly hold that the petition otherwise is free of deficiencies.

1 The Clerk of Court shall send the petitioner a copy of his petition and attachments  
2 together with this order. The motion for appointment of counsel will remain under submission  
3 pending receipt and consideration of a response to this order. The Court does not find that  
4 the interests of justice require the appointment of counsel prior to consideration of any show  
5 cause response filed.

6 DATED this 6th day of January, 2012.

Gloria M. Navarro  
United States District Judge

exhibit 13

C280630

9<sup>th</sup> case no. 12-15271

COA

FILED APR 13, 2012

exhibit 13

005227



FILED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

APR 13 2012

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK  
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,

Petitioner - Appellant,

v.

DOUG GILLESPIE, Sheriff, et al.,

Respondents - Appellees.

No. 12-15271

D.C. No. 2:11-cv-02109-GMN-VCF  
District of Nevada,  
Las Vegas

ORDER

Before: PAEZ and CLIFTON, Circuit Judges.

After reviewing the underlying petition and concluding that it states at least one federal constitutional claim debatable among jurists of reason, namely, a double jeopardy violation, we grant the request for a certificate of appealability with respect to the following issues: (1) whether the district court properly determined that appellant's double jeopardy claim was unexhausted, and (2) whether appellant, as a state pre-trial detainee, was required to exhaust his claim in state court before filing his 28 U.S.C. § 2241 petition, *compare Braden v. 30th Judicial Circuit Court of Ky.*, 410 U.S. 484, 489-91 (1973) (emphasizing that the § 2241 petitioner "exhausted all available state court remedies for consideration of [his speedy trial] constitutional claim") with *White v. Lambert*, 370 F.3d 1002, 1008 (9th Cir. 2004) ("If we were to allow *White* to proceed under 28 U.S.C. §

005228

2241, he would not be subject to . . . state court exhaustion requirements." See 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(3); *Gonzalez v. Thaler*, 132 S. Ct. 641 (2012); *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 483-85 (2000); *Lambright v. Stewart*, 220 F.3d 1022, 1026 (9th Cir. 2000); see also 9th Cir. R. 22-1(e).

A review of this court's docket reflects that the filing and docketing fees for this appeal remain due. Within 21 days of the filing date of this order, appellant shall either (1) pay to the district court the \$455.00 filing and docketing fees for this appeal and file in this court proof of such payment; or (2) file in this court a motion to proceed in forma pauperis, accompanied by a completed CJA Form 23. Failure to pay the fees or file a motion to proceed in forma pauperis shall result in the automatic dismissal of the appeal by the Clerk for failure to prosecute. See 9th Cir. R. 42-1.

If appellant moves to proceed in forma pauperis, appellant may simultaneously file a motion for appointment of counsel.

The Clerk shall serve a copy of CJA Form 23 on appellant.

If appellant pays the fees, the following briefing schedule shall apply: the opening brief is due June 25, 2012. There was no appearance by the appellees in the district court. The Clerk shall serve a copy of this order on the Office of the Attorney General, Grant Sawyer Bldg., 555 E. Washington Ave. Suite 3900, Las

Vegas, Nevada 89101, who is requested to enter a notice of appearance on behalf of appellees in this case. If Doug Gillespie, State of Nevada, and Attorney General are no longer the appropriate appellees in this case, counsel for appellees is directed to file simultaneously a motion to substitute party. See Fed. R. App. P. 43(c).

By July 25, 2012, appellees shall file an answering brief or a letter indicating that no answering brief will be filed. If appellees file an answering brief, the optional reply brief will be due 14 days after service of the answering brief. If appellant files a motion to proceed in forma pauperis, the briefing schedule will be set upon disposition of the motion.

FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT			
IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR ATTORNEY-FEES OR OTHER COURT SERVICES WITHOUT PAYMENT OF FEES			
IN UNITED STATES <input type="checkbox"/> MAGISTRATE <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT <input type="checkbox"/> APPEALS COURT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER PANEL (Specify below)			
IN THE CASE OF  V.S.  		FOR  AT  	
PERSON REPRESENTED (Show your full name)  		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">LOCATION NUMBER</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">DOCKET NUMBER</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Magistrate</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">District Court</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Court of Appeals</div>	
CHARGE/OFFENSE (describe if applicable & check box →) <input type="checkbox"/> Felony <input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanor		<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Defendant - Adult <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Defendant - Juvenile <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Appellant <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Probation Violator <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Parole Violator <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Habeas Petitioner <input type="checkbox"/> 7 2255 Petitioner <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Material Witness <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other	

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS REGARDING ABILITY TO PAY																		
ASSETS	EMPLOYMENT	Are you now employed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Am Self-Employed Name and address of employer: _____ IF YES, how much do you earn per month? \$ _____ IF NO, give month and year of last employment: _____ How much did you earn per month? \$ _____																
	OTHER INCOME	If married is your Spouse employed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If YES, how much does your Spouse earn per month? \$ _____ If a minor under age 21, what is your Parents or Guardian's approximate monthly income? \$ _____																
		Have you received within the past 12 months any income from a business, profession or other form of self-employment, or in the form of rent payments, interest, dividends, investment or annuity payments, or other sources? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No																
		IF YES, GIVE THE AMOUNT RECEIVED & IDENTIFY THE SOURCES <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 40%;">RECEIVED</div> <div style="width: 60%;">SOURCES</div> </div>																
CASH	Have you any cash on hand or money in savings or checking accounts? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, state total amount: \$ _____																	
	PROPERTY	Do you own any real estate, stocks, bonds, cars, automobiles, or other valuable property (excluding ordinary household furnishings and clothing)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, GIVE THE VALUE AND \$ DESCRIBE IT <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;">VALUE</th> <th style="width: 60%; text-align: center;">DESCRIPTION</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>		VALUE	DESCRIPTION													
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	DEBTS & MONTHLY BILLS <small>(LIST ALL CREDITORS INCLUDING BANKS, utility companies, credit card issuers, etc.)</small>	APARTMENT OR HOME	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;">Creditor</th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">Total Debt</th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;">Monthly Payment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td>\$ _____</td><td>\$ _____</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>\$ _____</td><td>\$ _____</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>\$ _____</td><td>\$ _____</td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td>\$ _____</td><td>\$ _____</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Creditor	Total Debt	Monthly Payment		\$ _____	\$ _____		\$ _____	\$ _____		\$ _____	\$ _____		\$ _____	\$ _____
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I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on (date) _____																		
SIGNATURE OF DEFENDANT (OR PERSON REPRESENTED) _____																		

005231

exhibit 14

C250630

S.O.N. No. 61631

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

FILED APR 10 2013

exhibit 14

005232



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,  
Appellant,  
vs.  
THE STATE OF NEVADA,  
Respondent.

No. 61631

**FILED**

APR 10 2013

TRACIE K. LINDEMAN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY *[Signature]*  
DEPUTY CLERK

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

This is an appeal from a judgment of conviction, pursuant to a jury verdict, of second-degree murder with the use of a deadly weapon. Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County; Michael Villani, Judge.

First, appellant Brian O'Keefe argues that his conviction violates double jeopardy because this court reversed his prior conviction for the same offense after concluding that insufficient evidence was presented at trial. O'Keefe is mistaken. This court reversed his prior conviction because the jury was erroneously instructed regarding a theory that the killing occurred during the commission of an unlawful act, which was not alleged in the charging document and was not supported by the evidence. O'Keefe v. State, Docket No. 53859 (Order of Reversal and Remand, April 7, 2010). Double jeopardy does not preclude O'Keefe's instant conviction under an alternate theory of second-degree murder which was presented at his first trial and alleged in the charging document. See Parker v. Norris, 64 F.3d 1178, 1180-82 (8th Cir. 1995) (finding no double jeopardy violation where defendant's conviction for felony murder was reversed due to error and defendant was convicted at a second trial under an alternative theory of murder); see also Stephens v.

Supreme Court  
of  
Nevada

100 101A

13-10505

005233

State, 127 Nev. \_\_\_, \_\_\_, 262 P.3d 727, 734 (2011) (the remedy for errors unrelated to sufficiency of the evidence is reversal and remand for a new trial, not an acquittal).

Second, O'Keefe argues that the district court abused its discretion by allowing him to represent himself at trial because his decision to do so was not knowing, voluntary, and intelligent. Before granting O'Keefe's request, the district court conducted an appropriate canvass pursuant to Faretta v. California, 422 U.S. 806 (1975), during which O'Keefe stated that he spent several years studying the law and understood the nature of the charges against him, the potential penalties he faced, and the dangers of self-representation. Although O'Keefe asserts that his poor performance at trial demonstrates his decision was unknowing, "a criminal defendant's ability to represent himself has no bearing upon his competence to choose self-representation," Vanisi v. State, 117 Nev. 330, 341, 22 P.3d 1164, 1172 (2001) (quoting Godinez v. Moran, 509 U.S. 389, 400 (1993)), and the record reflects that O'Keefe voluntarily chose to represent himself despite full knowledge of the risks. We conclude that the district court did not abuse its discretion by granting O'Keefe's request for self-representation. See Hooks v. State, 124 Nev. 48, 55, 176 P.3d 1081, 1085 (2008) (reviewing the record as a whole and giving deference to a district court's decision to allow a defendant to waive his right to counsel).

Third, O'Keefe argues that the district court abused its discretion by denying his request to stay or continue trial for approximately nine months because he had pending proceedings in federal court and was unprepared for trial. The district court rejected O'Keefe's assertion that his federal proceedings in any way limited his ability to

prepare for trial and noted that O'Keefe asked to represent himself and was given ample time to do so effectively. We conclude that the district court did not abuse its discretion by denying O'Keefe's request for an extended continuance where the delay was his fault. See Rose v. State, 123 Nev. 194, 206, 163 P.3d 408, 416 (2007).

Fourth, O'Keefe argues that the district court erred by allowing a substitute judge to preside over his trial because the original judge was more familiar with the case and its complex procedural posture. O'Keefe does not demonstrate how he was prejudiced by the substitution of a different judge. See generally United States v. Lane, 708 F.2d 1394, 1398 (9th Cir. 1983) (error involving substitution of judges is harmless if the defendant has not been prejudiced). We conclude that O'Keefe fails to demonstrate that the district court erred.

Fifth, O'Keefe argues that the district court abused its discretion by rejecting his proposed instructions and by giving instructions over his objection. "The district court has broad discretion to settle jury instructions, and this court reviews the district court's decision for an abuse of that discretion or judicial error." Crawford v. State, 121 Nev. 744, 748, 121 P.3d 582, 585 (2005). Because O'Keefe has not provided this court with the instructions given at trial, he fails to demonstrate that the district court abused its discretion by rejecting his proposed instruction. See generally Vallery v. State, 118 Nev. 357, 372, 46 P.3d 66, 77 (2002) (noting that a district court does not err by refusing an accurate instruction related to the defendant's theory of the case if it is substantially covered by other instructions); see also Greene v. State, 96 Nev. 555, 558, 612 P.2d 686, 688 (1980) ("The burden to make a proper appellate record rests on appellant."). O'Keefe also does not identify which

instructions he contends were erroneously given. We conclude that he fails to demonstrate that the district court abused its discretion.

Having considered O'Keefe's contentions and concluded that no relief is warranted, we

ORDER the judgment of conviction AFFIRMED.<sup>1</sup>

J. Hardesty J.  
Hardesty

J. Parraguirre J.  
Parraguirre

J. Cherry J.  
Cherry

cc: Hon. Michael Villani, District Judge  
Bellon & Maningo, Ltd.  
Attorney General/Carson City  
Clark County District Attorney  
Eighth District Court Clerk

O'Keefe's fast track statement does not comply with NRAP 3C(h)(1) and 32(a)(4) because it does not have 1-inch margins on all four sides. We caution counsel that future failure to comply with formatting requirements when filing briefs with this court may result in the imposition of sanctions. NRAP 3C(n).

We deny O'Keefe's request for full briefing because it does not comply with NRAP 3C(k)(2), as it was not filed separate from the fast track statement. Further, although O'Keefe explains that full briefing is requested so that each issue may be adequately set forth and appropriate legal authority cited, we note that he did not file a motion for excess pages. See NRAP 3C(k)(2)(C).

exhibit 15

C250630

SECOND - TRIAL - DAY 7

FLASHING OF J.I.'s

State Judicial Admissions

EOR 97, 98, 99, 100, 101

exhibit 15



**COPY**

**FILED**

Nov 23 10 24 AM '10

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA  
\*\*\*\*\*

*John L. Johnson*  
CLERK OF THE COURT

THE STATE OF NEVADA,  
vs. Plaintiff,

CASE NO. C-250630

DEPT. NO. 17

BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,  
Defendant.

Transcript of  
Proceedings

BEFORE THE HONORABLE MICHAEL VILLANI, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT OF  
JURY TRIAL - DAY 7

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2010

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

CHRISTOPHER LALLI, ESQ.  
Assistant District Attorney

STEPHANIE GRAHAM, ESQ.  
Deputy District Attorney

FOR THE DEFENDANT:

PATRICIA PALM, ESQ.  
Special Deputy Public Defender

COURT RECORDER:

MICHELLE RAMSEY  
District Court

TRANSCRIPTION BY:

VERBATIM DIGITAL REPORTING, LLC  
Littleton, CO 80120  
(303) 798-0890

Proceedings recorded by audio-visual recording, transcript  
produced by transcription service.

2:11-cv-02109-GMN-VCF

005238  
EOR 097

1 the jury can consider alcohol intoxication or not.

2 THE COURT: Okay. All right, let's deal with the  
3 voluntary instruction.

4 MR. LALLI: The voluntariness?

5 THE COURT: Involuntary.

6 MR. LALLI: Oh, and just -- just for the court's  
7 edification, the modifications that we had discussed at the  
8 last break on the voluntariness, I've made those and I e-mailed  
9 the version to the court.

10 THE COURT: Yes, I do have those.

11 MS. PALM: And your Honor, my involuntary instruction  
12 is at Page 13 of my instruction packet.

13 THE COURT: All right. Do you have that one, Mr.  
14 Lalli?

15 MR. LALLI: I do.

16 THE COURT: All right. Do you have any objection to  
17 the giving of the instruction?

18 MR. LALLI: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 MR. LALLI: A number of objections. Number one, it's  
21 not their theory of the case. And I think throughout these  
22 proceedings and pleadings, while settling instructions, it is  
23 abundantly clear it is not their theory of the case. Their  
24 theory is that this was an accident and/or it was some form of  
25 or some ilk of self-defense. That's their defense, not

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

005239  
EOR 098

1 involuntary manslaughter.

2       The problem with the involuntary manslaughter is what  
3 the defense is attempting to do in this instruction, and part  
4 of it is taking -- taken from NRS 200.070, they're only citing  
5 a portion of the instruction. They're -- they're not citing  
6 the complete statute on -- on involuntary manslaughter.

7       They've -- they've removed a section. When this case  
8 was reversed by the Supreme Court, they looked at this issue of  
9 involuntary manslaughter and how it operated with second degree  
10 murder. Obviously, the court well knows those two things are  
11 related. Has to do with when does an involuntary manslaughter  
12 become a second degree murder.

13       I'm entitled to the entire instruction if it's given.  
14 The problem is that is precisely the reason it got reversed.  
15 And our Supreme Court said there is no evidence to support  
16 this. Not only is the instruction improper, but there's no  
17 evidence to support it. They said that in their opinion  
18 reversing the case.

19       So it's not their theory, there's no evidence to  
20 support it, and -- and just as a matter of the record as -- as  
21 we've seen it thus far, there is no evidence to support it.  
22 And finally, it creates this issue, this legal issue that the  
23 -- the -- the Supreme Court has already said is a problem. So  
24 you can't just give part of the statute. You've gotta give all  
25 of it. And that is going to create a problem.

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

005240  
EOR 099

2:11-cv-02109-GMN-VCF

1 THE COURT: All right, thank you. Ms. Palm.

2 MS. PALM: Well, your Honor, when the reversal came  
3 back it was because the instruction had gone to the jury, which  
4 we objected to, and the court had determined not to give, but  
5 ended up in the packet anyway addressing a second degree murder  
6 based on a felony murder theory unlawful act.

7 And the court said there's no notice of such a theory  
8 and there was no evidence of such an unlawful act. So that's  
9 the problem when -- why it got reversed. As far as the  
10 involuntary goes, the statute has two alternative ways you can  
11 have an involuntary. You can have the lawful act involuntary  
12 or the unlawful act involuntary.

13 What I did with this instruction is I took out the  
14 language from the statute for the unlawful act because that's  
15 what would be a problem in this case. There's been no notice  
16 that he did an unlawful act. But you still have the regular  
17 involuntary that's based on recklessness doing a lawful act.  
18 And I think that we do have evidence in this case from which  
19 the jury could find that.

20 There's evidence that she was coming at him with a  
21 knife. And there was evidence that he was extremely  
22 intoxicated. The jury could determine that -- that if there  
23 was a killing, it happened as a result of his recklessness. So  
24 that is our theory that there is not a murder in this case.  
25 However, if there's anything at all, it would be an

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

005241

EOR 100

2:11-cv-02109-GMN-VCF

1 involuntary. That's hour theory.

2 So we are entitled to instructions on our theory of  
3 the case. I'm just defining involuntary manslaughter based on  
4 the lawful act manslaughter that's set forth in the statute.  
5 And instructions are supposed to be tailored, specifically to  
6 the facts of the case.

7 Mr. Lalli is not entitled to instruction based on  
8 theories that are not related to the facts of the case and  
9 theories upon which we haven't had any notice for an unlawful  
10 act involuntary. So we are entitled to those tailored  
11 instructions. The State has a burden of -- of proving malice  
12 beyond a reasonable doubt. And if they don't prove malice,  
13 that they prove something less than malice, there's two types  
14 of recklessness. You have either the extreme malignant  
15 recklessness, which is malice for murder. Or you have just  
16 regular recklessness, which is enough for involuntary.

17 So it's a subset of that type of murder. It's a  
18 lesser included under these circumstances. It's Mr. O'Keefe's  
19 theory of the case. We're entitled to tailor instructions and  
20 that's all this is -- this is setting forth. This is the  
21 instruction we're requesting.

22 MR. LALLI: In not one document that she's filed with  
23 the court has she ever said it's her theory of the case. In  
24 fact, in pleadings she said just the opposite. Yesterday it's  
25 my recollection she -- I mean, she was incapable of coming up

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

005242

EOR 101

2:11-cv-02109-GMN-VCF



exhibit 16

Q250630

S.C.N. No. 53859

FAST TRACK STATEMENT

FIRST TRIAL

FILED AUG 19 2009

exhibit 16

005243

ORIGINAL

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

BRIAN KERRY O'KEEFE,

Appellant,

vs.

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Respondent.

Case No. 53859

District Court Case No. C250630

**FILED**

AUG 19 2009

TRACIE K. LINDEMAN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY *[Signature]*  
DEPUTY CLERK

FAST TRACK STATEMENT

1. Name of party filing this fast track statement: Appellant Brian O'Keefe
2. Name, law firm, address, and number of attorney submitting this fast track statement: JoNell Thomas, Clark County Special Public Defender's Office, 330 South 3rd Street, Suite 800, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155, (702) 455-6265.
3. Name if different from trial counsel: n/a
4. Judicial district, county, and district court docket number of lower court proceedings: Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Docket No. C250630
5. Name of judge issuing order appealed from: Honorable Michael Villani
6. Length of trial, 5 days.
7. Conviction appealed from: One count of second degree murder with use of a deadly weapon.
8. Sentence for each count: A term of 10 to 25 years for second degree murder and a consecutive term of 96 months to 240 months for the weapons enhancement.
9. Date district court announced decision, sentence, or order appealed from: 5/5/09.
10. Date of entry of written judgment or order appealed from: 5/8/09
11. If this appeal is based on a petition for a writ of habeas corpus .... n/a
12. If the time for filing the notice of appeal was tolled by a post-judgment motion: n/a



09-20141

005244

- 1 13. **Date notice of appeal filed:** 5/21/09
- 2 14. **Specify rule governing the time limit for filing the notice of appeal:** NRAP 4(h)
- 3 15. **Specify statute which grants this court jurisdiction:** NRS 177.015.
- 4 16. **Specify nature of deposition.** Judgment of conviction entered pursuant to a jury verdict.
- 5 17. **Pending and prior proceedings in this court.** None known to counsel.
- 6 18. **Pending and prior proceedings in other courts.** None known to counsel.
- 7 19. **Proceedings raising same issues.** None known to current counsel.
- 8 20. **Procedural history.** The State charged O'Keefe with murder with use of a deadly
- 9 weapon. 1 App. 1. He entered a plea of not guilty and invoked his right to a speedy trial.
- 10 1 App. 5. The State filed a motion to admit bad act evidence which was addressed by the
- 11 district court. 1 App. 8. It did not include as a bad act the claim that O'Keefe used a racial
- 12 epithet while talking with an officer. 1 App. 8-9. An Amended Information was filed. 1
- 13 App. 12. The State did not charge a theory of felony murder. 1 App. 12. Trial began on
- 14 March 16, 2009. 1 App. 20. 65. During trial, O'Keefe filed a brief on the admissibility of
- 15 evidence of the alleged victim's history of suicide attempts, anger outbursts, anger
- 16 management therapy, self-mutilation (with knives and scissors) and erratic behavior. 2 App.
- 17 313. Proposed jury instructions were submitted by O'Keefe. 2 App. 322. After five days
- 18 of trial, on March 20, 2009, the jury returned a verdict finding O'Keefe guilty of second
- 19 degree murder with use of a deadly weapon. 2 App. 309. 380. O'Keefe filed a motion to
- 20 settle the record, which addressed matters that took place in chambers and during unrecorded
- 21 bench conferences. 2 App. 381. Argument on the motion took place on April 7, 2009. 2
- 22 App. 387. The sentencing hearing was held on May 5, 2009. 2 App. 391. As noted above,
- 23 this timely appeal followed.
- 24 21. **Statement of facts.** Brian O'Keefe and Victoria Whitmarsh, the alleged victim, met in
- 25 a treatment facility in 2001. 1 App. 95. 2 App. 256. They dated and co-habitated off and on,
- 26 and had what could be described as a very tumultuous relationship. 2 App. 256-57. In 2004,
- 27 O'Keefe was convicted of burglary for entering into the couple's joint dwelling with the
- 28 intent to commit a crime against Whitmarsh. O'Keefe was sentenced with probation, but his

1 probation was revoked when he was convicted of a third offense of domestic battery against  
2 Whitmarsh and he went to prison in 2006. 1 App. 192. 2 App. 257. Whitmarsh testified  
3 against O'Keefe in the domestic battery case. 1 App. 192.

4 When O'Keefe was released from prison in 2007, he met and began a relationship  
5 with Cheryl Morris. 1 App. 93. 2 App. 257. He would often speak to Morris about his  
6 previous relationship with Whitmarsh, and even expressed to her that he still had strong  
7 feelings for Whitmarsh. 1 App. 93-94, 99. Morris claimed at trial that O'Keefe said he was  
8 upset with Whitmarsh because she put him in prison and he said he wanted to "kill the bitch."  
9 1 App. 94. Morris testified that O'Keefe left at one point to be with Whitmarsh, and then  
10 telephoned Morris, asking her to move out of their jointly shared apartment so Whitmarsh  
11 could move in. 1 App. 93. Morris testified that Whitmarsh got on the phone with her during  
12 that call and told her she had decided to resume her relationship with O'Keefe. The two of  
13 them appeared to be a loving couple and were open about their relationship. 1 App. 85; 2  
14 App. 215, 218-19.

15 At about 10:00 p.m. on the evening of the incident, in November 2008, a neighbor  
16 who lived in the apartment below O'Keefe and Whitmarsh heard what she described as  
17 thumping and crying noises coming from upstairs. 1 App. 67. The noise became so loud that  
18 it woke her husband, Charles Toliver, who was in bed next to her. 1 App. 67, 70. Toliver  
19 went upstairs to inquire about the noise and found the door to O'Keefe's apartment open.  
20 1 App. 72. He yelled inside to get the occupants' attention, at which time O'Keefe came out  
21 of the bedroom and shouted at Toliver to "come get her!" 1 App. 72-73. When Toliver  
22 entered the bedroom, he saw Whitmarsh lying on the floor next to the bed and saw blood on  
23 the bed covers. 1 App. 73. O'Keefe was holding her and saying "baby, baby, wake up, don't  
24 do me like this." 1 App. 73, 76. O'Keefe did not stop Toliver from going in the apartment  
25 or otherwise fight with him. 1 App. 76. Toliver left the apartment immediately and shouted  
26 at a neighbor who was outside to call the police. 1 App. 73. He also brought Todd  
27 Armbruster, another neighbor, back upstairs. 1 App. 74. O'Keefe was still holding  
28 Whitmarsh and told Armbruster to get the hell out of there. 1 App. 74. Armbruster called

1 911. 1 App. 80. He thought that O'Keefe was drunk. 1 App. 80-81.

2 By this time, shortly after 11:00 p.m., police had arrived on the scene. 1 App. 74, 103.  
3 When they entered the bedroom, they found Whitmarsh lying on the floor next to the bed and  
4 an unarmed O'Keefe cradling her in his arms and stroking her head. 1 App. 112, 114. The  
5 police believed Whitmarsh to be dead and ordered O'Keefe to let go of her, but he refused.  
6 1 App. 103, 105, 112. The officers eventually had to subdue him with a taser gun and  
7 forcibly carried him out of the bedroom. 1 App. 108, 112, 120, 129. O'Keefe was acting  
8 agitated. 1 App. 108, the officers testified that he had a strong odor of alcohol on him, and  
9 he appeared to be extremely intoxicated. 1 App. 122, 200-01. Much of his speech was  
10 incoherent, but at one point he said that Whitmarsh stabbed herself and he also said that she  
11 tried to stab him. 1 App. 104-06, 111, 113, 121, 126. They arrested him and brought him  
12 to the homicide offices. 1 App. 134.

13 Subsequent to his arrest, O'Keefe gave a rambling statement indicating he was not  
14 aware of Whitmarsh's death or its cause. 1 App. 190. Police interviewed him at 1:20 a.m.,  
15 at which time he was crying, raising his voice, talking to himself, and slurring. Detective  
16 Wildemann stated that during the interview O'Keefe smelled heavily of alcohol, and when  
17 police took photographs of him at about 3:55 a.m., they had to hold him upright to steady  
18 him. 1 App. 194. Wildemann said it was pretty obvious that O'Keefe had been drinking,  
19 however, law enforcement did not obtain a test for his breath or blood alcohol level either  
20 before or after the interview. 1 App. 194.

21 Whitmarsh had also been drinking on the date of the incident, and at the time of her  
22 death, her blood alcohol content was 0.24. 1 App. 181, 186. She died of one stab wound to  
23 her side and had bruising on the back of her head. 1 App. 180, 183. Medical Examiner Dr.  
24 Benjamin testified that Whitmarsh's toxicology screen indicated that she was taking Effexor  
25 and that drug should not be taken with alcohol. 1 App. 184-85. Whitmarsh had about three  
26 times the target dosage of Effexor in her system. 2 App. 234. The combination of Effexor  
27 and alcohol could have caused anxiety, confusion and anger. 2 App. 234. Whitmarsh also  
28 had Hepatitis C and advanced Cirrhosis of the liver, which is known to cause bruising with



1 only slight pressure to the body. 1 App. 180-81. Whitmarsh's body displayed multiple  
2 bruises at the time Dr. Benjamin examined her and the bruises were different colors, but she  
3 could not say that they were associated with Whitmarsh's death or otherwise say how long  
4 ago Whitmarsh sustained the bruises. 1 App. 186. DNA belonging to O'Keefe and to  
5 Whitmarsh was found on a knife at the scene. 1 App. 173-74.

6 O'Keefe testified. 2 App. 254. He acknowledged his problems with alcohol and  
7 described his history with Whitmarsh. 2 App. 254-58. He disputed Morris's claim that he  
8 said he wanted to kill Whitmarsh, but he acknowledged being angry with her. 2 App. 258.  
9 It was Whitmarsh who called O'Keefe and she initiated their renewed relationship. 2 App.  
10 258. He was aware that Whitmarsh had Hepatitis C when she moved into his apartment. 2  
11 App. 259-60. In November, 2008, Whitmarsh was stressed because of her financial  
12 condition. 2 App. 268. A couple of days before the incident at issue here, Whitmarsh  
13 confronted O'Keefe with a knife. 2 App. 269. She had been drinking and was on  
14 medication. 2 App. 269. O'Keefe had not been drinking that night and was able to diffuse  
15 the situation. 2 App. 269. On November 5, 2009, O'Keefe learned that he would be hired  
16 for a new job and had two glasses of wine to celebrate. 2 App. 269-70. O'Keefe and  
17 Whitmarsh went to the Paris Casino where they both had drinks. 2 App. 270. They returned  
18 home and she went upstairs while he reclined in the passenger seat of the car for a period of  
19 time. 2 App. 271. He went upstairs and then smoked outside on a balcony while she was in  
20 the bathroom. 2 App. 272. He then went in the bedroom and saw Whitmarsh coming at him  
21 with a knife. 2 App. 272. He swung his jacket at her and told her to get back. 2 App. 272.  
22 He knew that she was mad at him about a lot of things. 2 App. 272. He grabbed the knife,  
23 she yanked it and cut his hand. 2 App. 272. They struggled for a period of time. 2 App.  
24 272-73. While fighting, she fell down, he fell on top of her and then he realized that she was  
25 bleeding. 2 App. 273. He was still drunk at this point and was trying to figure out what  
26 happened. 2 App. 273. He tried to stop the bleeding and panicked. 2 App. 274. He tried  
27 taking care of Whitmarsh and asked his neighbor to call someone after the neighbor came  
28 into his room. 2 App. 274. He became agitated when the neighbor brought another neighbor

1 question as to whether or not he was partially undressed, rather than calling the press to the  
2 2 App. 274. O'Keefe denied hitting or slamming Whitmarsh. 2 App. 275. He testified that  
3 he did not intentionally kill Whitmarsh, but felt responsible because he drank that night and  
4 he should not have done so. 2 App. 276.

5 **22. Issues on appeal.**

6 A. Whether the district court denied O'Keefe his state and federal constitutional rights to  
7 present evidence by prohibiting him from introducing evidence of the deceased's prior  
8 suicide attempts, self reported bi-polar conditions, "cutting" and other acts, and anger  
management issues and treatment that were contained within her medical records and that  
were within the knowledge of O'Keefe.

9 B. Whether the district court erred, and denied O'Keefe his state and federal constitutional  
rights to due process and a fair trial, by refusing to strike an erroneous jury instruction and  
10 instead directing the State not to rely upon the erroneous instruction in its closing argument.

11 C. Whether the district court erred, and denied O'Keefe his state and federal constitutional  
rights to due process and a fair trial, by allowing a transportation officer to testify that  
12 O'Keefe "told him to turn off that "nigger" music." O'Keefe's counsel were not given notice  
13 of this highly prejudicial statement.

14 D. Whether the district court erred by allowing photos of bruises on the body of the deceased  
despite the lack of relevance to this case due to the difficulty in determining the time of the  
15 bruising with the deceased's Hepatitis C and cirrhosis issues.

16 E. Whether the district court denied O'Keefe his state and federal constitutional rights to a  
fair trial by allowing a police detective to testify and offer his "expert" opinion whether the  
17 wounds on O'Keefe's hands were defensive wounds, while also denying O'Keefe the right  
to call his own expert to testify as to whether or not the wound on the deceased could have  
18 been caused by an accident.

\* 19 F. Whether the district court's rulings on jury instructions were erroneous.

20 **23. Legal argument, including authorities.**

21 A. The district court denied O'Keefe his state and federal constitutional rights to  
22 present evidence by prohibiting him from introducing testimony and evidence of the  
23 deceased's prior suicide attempts, self reported bi-polar conditions, "cutting" and other acts,  
24 and anger management issues and treatment that were contained within her medical records  
and that were within O'Keefe's knowledge.

25 The State objected to the admission of any testimony concerning Whitmarsh's suicide  
26 attempts and to admission of documents concerning Whitmarsh's medical history. 2 App.

27 230. O'Keefe's counsel submitted points and authorities as to the admissibility of evidence  
28